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Friday, April 16, 2004

Arrow Street Crepes to Close Permanently

Restaurant Has Not Been Profitable Since Its Opening, Will Close After Commencement

By Marissa Vogt

NEWS EDITOR

Arrow Street Crepes will permanently close its restaurant in the Student Center due to financial difficulties, said Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin III.

"We really have not been profitable since the day that we opened," said owner James Murray. "We've made a decision to close because it cost a little bit more money each month to run the creperie than the creperie would take in."

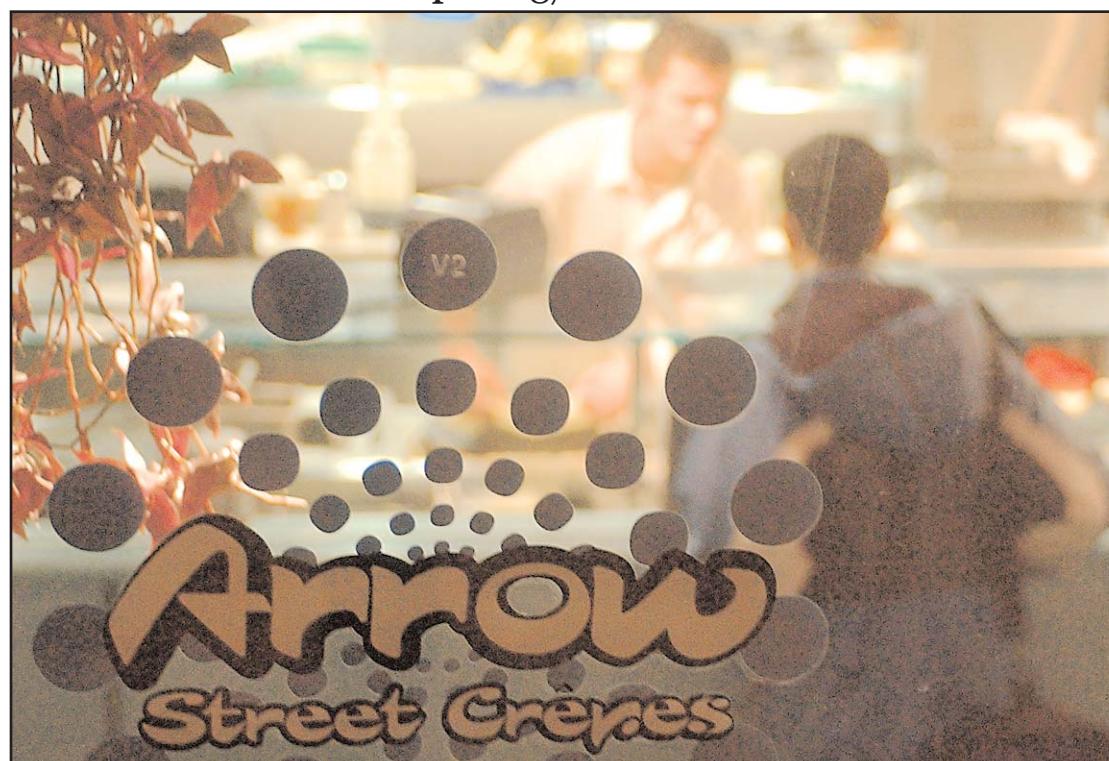
Berlin said that Arrow Street will remain open until June 11 so that it can continue to serve the MIT community through commencement.

Arrow Street expected more sales

Murray said that high operating expenses had made him consider closing Arrow Street as early as its second quarter, but he had kept the store open in hopes that business would improve.

He said that the creperie's losses, especially during the summer, prevented him from opening up another creperie and bubble tea shop near Porter Square.

Berlin said that the Office of Campus Dining had been working with Arrow Street to increase sales



PETER R. RUSSO—THE TECH

Siddharth Sundar '07 makes a purchase at Arrow Street Crepes in the Student Center Thursday night. The restaurant has not been profitable, and will be closing permanently on June 11.

and that he was surprised to hear of Arrow Street's decision to close.

"They expected to do more business" then they ended up doing, said Berlin. "We were

working with them for some time, trying to come up with ways to help their situation."

Murray said that despite developing a new breakfast menu last April and adjusting its hours of

operation, Arrow Street has not been able to permanently increase its sales.

The decision to close was made

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Prefrosh Gather on Campus for CPW

By Ray C. He

ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Over 800 prospective students for the MIT class of 2008 converged from all over the world to experience life as an MIT student, compacted into the four caffeinated days that are collectively known as Campus Preview Weekend.

A total of 894 prefrosh registered

for CPW, said Associate Director of Admissions Zaragoza A. Guerra III. Accompanying 516 of the prefrosh will be 779 parents, he said.

Prefrosh are excited to see what MIT has to offer. "The first thing I thought of was, 'I can't believe I'm here,'" said prospective student Kristen N. Sienzant. "I'm greatly anticipating going to a lot of math

classes," she said.

First impressions vary

Prefrosh have a variety of feelings about the physical appearance of the MIT campus.

"I first thought that it was big and pretty," said prospective student

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(L to R) Sarah F. Newman '06, Emily M. Levesque '06, and Chandler E. Hatton '06 make liquid nitrogen ice cream at the Campus Preview Weekend welcome festival Thursday night in Johnson Athletic Center. The event included such activities as DDR, chess, chain-mail making, origami, and T-shirt printing.

George W. Whitehead Jr.

George W. Whitehead Jr. of Winchester, MA, professor emeritus in the Department of Mathematics, died on Monday, April 12. He was 85.

Whitehead served on the MIT faculty from 1949 to 1985. His work was exceptionally important to the development of the field of algebraic topology, "one of the most active areas" in mathematics during "the 20 year period after World War II," said Professor of Mathematics Haynes R. Miller. "He played a major role in the creation of that edifice."

Miller refers to Whitehead as his "academic grandfather," a term for the PhD advisor of one's PhD advisor. Whitehead had 530 "academic descendants," a testament to his impact on academia.

Topology is essentially the intricate study of shape, and mathematicians such as Whitehead dealt with high dimensional shapes. Topology would consider a circle to be one dimensional (a one dimensional line traversible by moving left or right), a sphere two dimensional, and so on. The power of topology expands beyond our everyday physical experiences in three spacial dimensions because it provides abstractions and theorems abstractable to arbitrarily high dimensions.

The ideas of topology translate easily to systems or models with a large number of parameters. A parameter's constraints in relation to the other parameters of the system would carve out its own specific shape of potential system solutions.

Whitehead specialized in analyzing spheres of large dimensions and finding methods or functions that are able to reduce the number of dimensions. In tabulating the many different ways to perform dimensional reduction, Whitehead's research led to the J-homomorphism, which defines a family of functions allowing one to collapse a large number of parameters by significant amounts.

It was under Whitehead's leadership that MIT hired at least six leading thinkers in the field of topology. Some in the Department of Mathematics joked that MIT had become the "Massachusetts Institute of Topology."

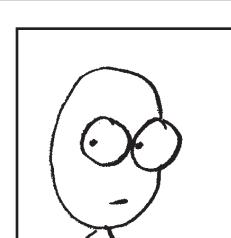
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List of MIT employee Social Security Numbers found online

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"Big Screw" competition earns steady stream of donations

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FEATURES

The Tech interviews Jack Valenti, long-time head of the Motion Picture Association of America.

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WORLD & NATION

Iraq Releases Japanese Captives

THE NEW YORK TIMES

TOKYO

Three Japanese civilians taken hostage last week in Iraq were released Thursday in Baghdad, bringing to an end the Japanese government's first crisis in its involvement in the war in Iraq.

The civilians were freed unharmed at a mosque and taken to the Japanese Embassy on Thursday afternoon, according to the Japanese Foreign Ministry. In a broadcast on Japanese television, the al-Jazeera network showed the former captives sitting and talking at the Islamic Clerics Association office in Baghdad.

News of the release came with a report that two other Japanese civilians may have been kidnapped. The two civilians, Junpei Yasuda, 30, a free-lance journalist, and Nobutaka Watanabe, an antiwar activist, were reported missing on Wednesday in an area west of Baghdad. The Japanese authorities said they could not confirm whether the two civilians had been kidnapped.

Last week, a previously unknown group called the Mujahedeen Brigades threatened to burn alive the three hostages unless the Japanese government withdrew its 550 troops from the area near the southern city of Samawah. Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi firmly said it would not, a position that was praised by Bush administration officials.

Strikes Show Canadian Provinces Sinking Under Social Service

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

As soon as 20,000 government workers went on strike two weeks ago, 70 Native Canadian hunters from Quebec took advantage of the absence of conservation officers and slaughtered dozens of caribou in an endangered Labrador herd.

It was a dramatic sign among several that many vital public services in this remote province of 525,000 people are beginning to break down.

It was also a cautionary tale for many other Canadian provinces that have growing budget deficits, debt burdens and tensions with public sector unions since the federal government began shifting many of the costs of social services to them in the mid-1990s.

With nurses and X-ray and lab technicians on strike, hospitals in Newfoundland and Labrador have canceled elective surgery and are delaying chemotherapy for some patients. Public school assistants are on picket lines, and thus unavailable to children with learning disabilities. Ferry services connecting small island communities are virtually paralyzed, disrupting deliveries of food and other supplies.

The walkouts began after an announcement that 4,000 public service workers, or 13 percent of the government's payroll, will be laid off in the next four years and wages will be frozen for the next two years to reduce a \$770 million budget deficit.

Massachusetts Governor Seeks To Delay Same-Sex Marriages

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON

With only a month before same-sex marriages are to become legal in Massachusetts, Gov. Mitt Romney made a last-ditch effort on Thursday to keep them from taking place for at least two and a half years.

Romney said he would ask state lawmakers to pass emergency legislation allowing him to petition the state's Supreme Judicial Court to stay its ruling making same-sex marriage legal as of May 17. The governor wants the court to postpone same-sex marriages until a proposed state constitutional amendment banning them has a chance to be approved by voters. That would not be until November 2006, because the amendment must be passed again in the 2005-06 legislative session.

Last month, when the constitutional amendment received preliminary approval from the Legislature, Romney, a Republican, asked the state attorney general, Thomas F. Reilly, to ask the court to stay the May 17 start date. But Reilly, a Democrat who opposes same-sex marriage but is considering a run for governor, refused to represent Romney or appoint another lawyer to do so, saying there was insufficient legal justification to ask the court to revisit a question it had already ruled on twice in the last six months.

Instant Summer

By David Flagg

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

For those who have waited so patiently these last several months, you will be happy to know that summer will soon arrive, on Monday to be exact.

Spring will likely begin on Saturday and end sometime on Sunday. Why? One possible explanation is a sudden, rapid acceleration in the Earth's revolution around the sun. A more plausible explanation, perhaps, is that a large area of high pressure will soon settle off the U.S. Mid-Atlantic coast. Its strategic positioning will allow for winds in the lowest few kilometers of the atmosphere to scream out of the southwest over a swath of dark, dormant vegetation. The result will be a rapid warming at the surface, enhanced by the lack of thriving flora, culminating in summertime warmth in time for Patriot's Day. Stay cool!

Weekend Outlook:

Today: Mostly sunny. High near 53°F (12°C).
Tonight: Clear. Low near 41°F (5°C).
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy. High near 69°F (20°C).
Tomorrow night: Partly cloudy. Low near 54°F (12°C).
Sunday: Partly cloudy. High near 73°F (23°C).
Monday: Mostly sunny. Low near 55°F (13°C), High near 82°F (28°C).

Bush Supports Replacement For Iraqi Governing Council

By Steven R. Weisman And David E. Sanger

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Bush administration accepted Thursday the outlines of a U.N. proposal to dissolve the Iraqi Governing Council installed last year by the United States and replace it with a caretaker regime when Iraqi sovereignty is restored on July 1.

Administration officials said that the proposal by Lakhdar Brahimi, the special U.N. envoy in Iraq, to create a government of prominent Iraqis had many details to be worked out, but that for now it was acceptable to President Bush.

"I don't see anything at this point in what he's proposing that would be of concern to us," said Condoleezza Rice, the national security adviser, in an interview, adding that Brahimi's mission "thus far has been very successful."

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell also supported the plan, while Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said it was likely to become a reality without explicitly approving it.

The Brahimi plan would replace the American-appointed Iraqi Governing Council with a transition government whose leaders would be appointed by the United Nations, after consultations with the United States, the governing council and other Iraqis. It could include members of the current governing council, but it is unclear how it would balance religious and regional rivalries within Iraq.

By endorsing the Brahimi plan, the administration seemed to accept diminished American influence over the Iraqi political process as self-rule approaches and after power has passed back to Baghdad.

But administration officials asserted that, even with the United

Nations overseeing the selection of a caretaker government, and then for holding an election and writing a constitution, American influence on the process would be considerable — not least because the United States is to remain in charge of military and security matters, and will be the country's main source of economic aid.

In addition Rice's chief deputy for Iraq, Robert Blackwill, has been working side by side with Brahimi in Iraq to come up with the plan proposed on Wednesday, several officials noted. The surge of violence in Iraq in recent weeks effectively forced Bush's hand, administration officials said. They acknowledge that any new plan had to be proposed by the United Nations and bear no obvious stamp of American influence.

American, European and U.N. diplomats all said that the Brahimi plan will likely give the United Nations a major role, and perhaps the leading role, in superintending the process of building democracy in Iraq.

"What he has come up with is an idea that he thinks will work," Rice said, referring to Brahimi. "In May he will have an actual proposal, but we have no objections thus far to what he has proposed."

Powell told the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. that Brahimi's proposal "reflects some very, very good thinking" and "a great deal of wisdom and experience" on his part, though he noted that the U.N. secretary-general, Kofi Annan, now needed to give his blessing.

Administration officials, speaking anonymously because of the sensitivity of the issues, said that they were concerned that at least some members of the current Iraqi Governing Council would try to

block Brahimi's proposal or jockey to make themselves a part of it.

"There are clearly some politics in Iraq, and the Governing Council is part of that politics," said an administration official. "It isn't a matter of us telling Brahimi what to do. It's a matter of what he thinks is right and of his being aware of what we think will be effective."

The 25-member Iraqi Governing Council was the product of efforts led by L. Paul Bremer, the American occupation administrator.

At the time, American officials praised it as representative of Iraqi aspirations and perhaps even the most representative government in the Arab world. Since then, however, the council has lost much credibility in Iraqi society, American officials say.

In recent weeks, there were signs, however, that American officials remained wedded to keeping the council, in an expanded version.

Powell said only two weeks ago that an expanded version of the council was the most likely alternative.

Some American officials say that Ahmad Chalabi, an exile favored by the Pentagon, could be marginalized as a result of the new plan. Aides to Brahimi make no secret of the envoy's disdain for Chalabi.

Rumsfeld is described by knowledgeable diplomats as still favoring a major role for Chalabi in Iraq.

Rumsfeld said that since the Brahimi plan was deemed "a reasonable one" by State Department and White House officials, "the odds favor a model something like what Brahimi announced."

Brahimi, a veteran of peacekeeping operations, most recently was in charge of putting together a government in Afghanistan, for which he won widespread praise.

Rising Chinese Prices Generate Worldwide Inflation Concerns

By Keith Bradsher

THE NEW YORK TIMES

GUANGZHOU, CHINA

As managers of businesses across China opened booths here on Thursday at the nation's biggest trade fair, the common refrain was that prices of everything from rice to steel were rising sharply, and that prices of exports to the United States, Europe and elsewhere would have to follow.

The prices for orders placed now will not show up in most U.S. indexes for months, when goods are actually shipped. But as prices begin to rise in the United States, concerns are growing that China will become an exporter of inflation. Even though its goods account for a small percentage of total U.S. purchases, China has played an oversize role in worldwide prices, with low labor costs that allow it to set prices in many industries.

A socket wrench manufacturer said his high-quality models had risen in price by 10 percent in the last six months and his lesser-quality models by as much as 50 percent. An exporter of automobile exhaust manifolds, brake drums and other parts had raised prices by 10 percent in several increments since December.

The prices of steel and other materials are major culprits. Another is energy costs. A motorcycle manufacturer in east-central China said he has had to close a factory for three days each week because of electricity blackouts, forcing a 4 percent increase in prices, with

more planned.

Food and other necessities are putting pressure on wages. A maker of key-cutting machines in an inland province of central China said it was paying workers 10 percent to 20 percent more to help cover sharp increases in rice prices, and had raised export prices for the machines by 25 to 30 percent.

Price increases in raw materials and other business costs in China, a government spokesman said, will probably spill over soon to consumer prices, in China and abroad.

"There is a time lag, but it can't be too long, and there is pressure for price rises," said Zheng Jingping, the spokesman for the National Bureau of Statistics, at a news conference in Beijing on Thursday. "If this goes on for a long time, it will cause problems."

Exports from China to the United States last year represented just 1.2 percent of the value of all goods and services produced within the United States. But China has been the low-cost provider in many areas. As its prices rise, many other low-income and middle-income countries exporting to the United States, from Eastern Europe to Mexico and Central and South America, will find it easier to raise prices as well.

China's efforts to keep the economy from overheating and igniting inflation have been unfruitful so far. Using a term that Zheng and other Chinese officials have conspicuously avoided, the state-run New China News Agency on Thursday quoted

Morgan Stanley's China economist, Andy Xie, describing the Chinese economy as "a bubble."

That comment came as Beijing announced that the economy had grown at a rapid 9.7 percent in the first quarter, faster than expected. The bureau of statistics also reported that consumer prices were exactly 3 percent higher in March than a year earlier.

Xie of Morgan Stanley said in a telephone interview that the true increase in consumer prices could be 7 or 8 percent. "The State Council has said they want to keep inflation below 3 percent, so they have to report an increase of 3 percent," he said, referring to China's cabinet.

In the United States, the Labor Department reported on Wednesday that prices climbed 0.5 percent in March, with gasoline and clothing leading the way, for an annualized rate of 6 percent if sustained. Though prices of housing and health care have been heading higher for some time, increases in other areas stoked concerns in the financial markets that inflation could rear its head in coming months.

Within China, ferocious competition has kept prices from rising for big-ticket items like cars, household appliances and mobile phones. Giant companies like Wal-Mart, moreover, have some ability to force suppliers to hold down price increases. The main buyers at the Guangzhou Trade Fair are wholesalers who supply small and medium-size retailers.

Party of Embattled President Big Winner in South Korea Vote

By James Brooke

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

In a sharp political backlash against the impeachment of President Roh Moo-hyun, South Korean voters tripled the size of his legislative delegation on Thursday, ensuring liberal control of the legislature.

In a rout of conservatives who voted for impeachment one month ago, Roh's Uri Party won 152 seats, a slim majority of the 299-seat, one-chamber National Assembly. The conservative Grand National Party lost its majority, falling to 121 seats and the Millennium Democrats, once the second force, was reduced to a handful of seats, according to near-final results. A new left-wing

party, the Democratic Labor Party, came in third, winning 10 seats.

Thursday's pro-Roh vote sent a clear message to the nation's Constitutional Court to rule against the legislature's vote to impeach the president. Uri Party officials also called on the legislature to vote to undo the impeachment vote at its next session.

In addition to placing the legislature in the hands of the liberal-left, Thursday's vote marks the first time since democracy was restored here in 1987 that the president and the legislature will come from the same party. Roh has four more years in his term, and the lawmakers elected Thursday will serve four-year terms.

"This is the first shift of power in the National Assembly in 43 years,"

Chung Eui-yong, the Uri Party's foreign relations spokesman, said Thursday evening. While party labels have changed, he said, the conservatives had dominated South Korea's legislature since 1961. "This means a new beginning for Korean politics."

With this new alignment, political analysts are talking here of a new Roh presidency. "This is the second round to the presidential election," said Yoon Seung-yee, a political science professor at Kyungsan University, referring to the December 2002 presidential vote, which Roh won narrowly. "President Roh will get more power, especially in relation to the National Assembly. But there are still strong voices of the conservatives."

Iraqi Officials Still Hopeful About Reaching Peace Settlement Soon

By Edward Wong

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Iraqi officials involved in talks aimed at quelling a Shiite insurrection said Thursday they hoped a peaceful settlement could be reached as soon as Friday, though there was still disagreement between the parties on what to do about the thousands-strong militia behind the uprising.

In the town of Kufa, the home of Muqtada al-Sadr, spiritual leader of the Mahdi militia, men wearing black-and-white headdresses and carrying AK-47s stood next to freshly dug foxholes alongside the road. In Najaf, where al-Sadr has sought refuge and which is sur-

rounded by 2,500 U.S. soldiers, the militiamen blocked side alleys and watched passing cars.

Fighting reportedly flared between Marines and insurgents in Fallujah on Thursday, despite a cease-fire called to give negotiators on both sides time to reach a solution.

In a visit to Baghdad on Thursday, Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, depicted the insurrection and fighting that has risen over nearly a two-week period as a sign of progress.

"I would characterize what we're seeing right now as a — as more a symptom of the success that we're having here in Iraq," he said

in a news conference, explaining that the violence indicated there was something to fight against — U.S. progress in building up Iraq.

Even as an Iranian delegation traveled from Baghdad to Najaf at the request of the British government to watch over or perhaps take part in negotiations, an Iranian diplomat was shot dead while driving to the Iranian Embassy in central Baghdad.

The diplomat, Khalil Naimi, was attacked in the early afternoon by people who drove up alongside his gray Mitsubishi sedan just around the corner from the embassy and riddled it with about a dozen bullets, an Iraqi police guard, Mokdam al-Azawi, said.

Report Destroyed Under Order of Shell Official

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A senior executive at the Royal Dutch/Shell Group told a subordinate in an e-mail message in December that the employee's preliminary analysis of the company's oil and gas reserves problems was "dynamite" and "needs to be destroyed" because it was incomplete, a person involved in the company's internal inquiry said on Thursday.

The senior executive, Walter van de Vijver, the head of Shell's exploration and production unit at the time, was dismissed on March 3, along with the company's chairman, Sir Philip Watts.

Their dismissals came two months after the company stunned investors by lowering its estimates of proven reserves, a crucial financial indicator, by 20 percent, or 3.9 billion barrels. The company is under investigation by regulators and prosecutors in Europe and the United States.

In London, the combined boards of Shell are discussing whether to ask other executives at the company to step down, an executive close to the situation said on Thursday. The board members of Royal Dutch Petroleum and Shell Transport and Trading, the two companies that make up Shell, meeting in The Hague on Thursday and Friday to discuss the results of the internal investigation, which is being conducted by the company's audit committee.

FDA Barred Testimony on Anti-Depressants' Danger to Children

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Top officials at the Food and Drug Administration admitted Thursday that they barred the agency's top expert from testifying at a public hearing about his conclusion that anti-depressants cause children to become suicidal because they viewed his findings as alarmist and premature.

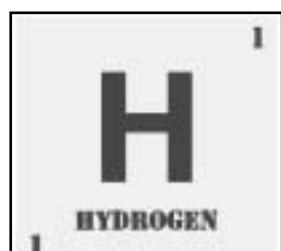
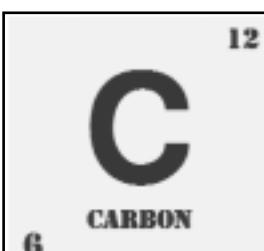
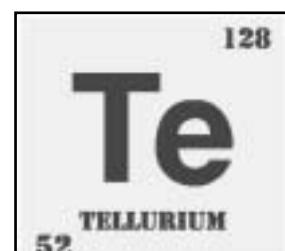
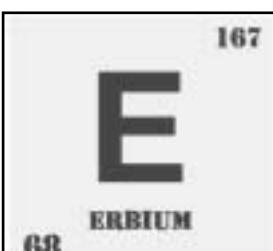
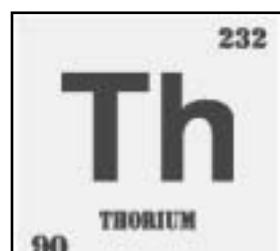
"It would have been entirely inappropriate to present as an FDA conclusion an analysis of data that were not ripe," Dr. Robert Temple, the Food and Drug Administration's associate director of medical policy, said. "This is a very serious matter. If you get it wrong and overdiscourage the use of these medicines, people could die."

Temple was seeking to quell a growing controversy into whether the agency's warnings on March 22 that anti-depressant therapy could lead patients to become suicidal were sufficient. He dismissed allegations from some in Congress that the agency is involved in a cover-up that could endanger children's lives.

"There is concern that we hid data," said Temple. "We did not hide data. It was there for all to see."

Recent studies have shown that children given anti-depressants are more likely to become suicidal than those given placebos. But the studies have become a collective ink-blot test for psychiatrists, leading to wildly different interpretations.

The Elements of a Good Newspaper



Be sure to stop by *The Tech's* open house
 Friday, April 17th
 6:30-9 p.m.
 Student Center, Room 483

Write an article, take a photograph,
 draw a comic, or try your hand at
 layout.

Prefrosh, undergraduates, and graduate
 students are welcome.

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OPINION

Bush and Sound Science



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The Union of Concerned Scientists recently released a report and statement signed by 62 prominent scientists charging the Bush administration with widespread manipulation and mis-

Editorial

use of science in government. The report is damning, and attacks all facets of the relationship between government and science. Weapons policy makers are accused of ignoring the physics community's input and skepticism regarding anti-missile defense. Bush environmental officers are accused of ignoring, repressing, and misrepresenting the scientific research that should guide their decisions. Committees across the board are alleged to have been loaded not with expert scientists, but with ideologues suited to the president's fundamentalist Christian tastes. Scientists who stray too far from the desired ideological positions are removed without warning. The report is worded strongly: "The scale of the manipulation, suppression and misrepresentation of science by the Bush administration is unprecedented ... There is a well established pattern of suppression and distortion of scientific findings" by this administration, it reads. The task of official response to the report has apparently been delegated to Office of Science and Technology Policy Director John Marburger, who has offered forceful but haphazard and incomplete responses to the charges leveled in the report.

As a community of the world's leading scientists and engineers, MIT should be especially perturbed at this abuse; after all, the UCS itself was born of a faculty movement here in the late 1960s, advocating a shift from purely military research to social and environmental research. MIT should be one of the first organizations to support (or rebuke, if the case exists) the stance of the UCS — the issue of field expertise in determining scientific policy is too fundamental to the core values of the Institute to ignore. The people who are a part of this Institute are the ones who are or will become these very experts that are passed up in favor of stance with the political majority.

President Vest has not returned multiple requests for comment on this report. Given his impending installation as a Washington insider, we hope he hasn't sacrificed any part of the spirit of honest scientific inquiry by bending to political winds. He'll surely have to face more severe trials along those lines during his beltway tenure.

What's exemplified here are not simply disagreements over value judgements. The points of contention are not whether or not the government should develop weapons systems, allow citizens to use pristine environments for productive ends, or extensively fund public scientific research. The problem is the scientific merit of the facts the government has used to arrive at their conclusions. This administration seems not to understand that the point of spin needs to be at that level of value judgment, not at the level of fact and reality, which are less (or rather, not) subject to spin.

The pattern of denying reality on prominent issues is disturbing. The case for invading Iraq, the merits of the new Medicare bill, and the costs and beneficiaries of tax cuts all spring to mind as cases where deceit was used in favor of cases that could have held water on their own merits.

As insiders defect in greater numbers from the Bush camp, sharing horror stories about ideological blinders and unprecedented politicization of decision making, the dishonest modus operandi appears to be catching up to a candidate who rode into Washington promising to "set a new tone" of honesty and civility. Indeed, Bush has set a new tone, but it's not one marked by candor. There's plenty of room for disagreement, spin, and misinformation in the standard back and forths of politics and ideology. Conservatives like Bush have more than enough room to attack liberal ideology and practice, and to advocate their own. But patronizing dishonesty is not an ideological position. It's not a part of anyone's political philosophy to lie about reality. This administration seems to be a bit confused; it's their tool of the trade.



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Erratum

A Tuesday article ["Szuminski Debuts in the Majors"] misstates the concept of an unearned run in baseball. It is a run that results from an error, not a run scored off something other than a batter's hit. Consequently, the scored run mentioned in the article was unearned not because it was walked in, but rather because of an error two plays earlier.

FEATURES

Real Dialogue: *The Tech* interviews Jack Valenti

By Keith J. Winstein
SENIOR EDITOR

Jack Valenti, the iconic 82-year-old who has headed the Motion Picture Association of America for the last 38 years, spoke at the MIT Communications Forum last Thursday. The MPAA offered *The Tech* a chance to ask Valenti questions after his talk, and — as a former *Tech* news reporter interested in technology and copyright — I got drafted.

Valenti is an incredibly polished advocate for the movie studios. He has numerous legislative and regulatory successes to his name, and his stated commitment to honest debate (he spoke passionately several times about his commitment to the “ideal of civic discourse” and his disgust at Washington, D.C.’s lack of it) is admirable.

But we don’t have a real debate on copyright issues. We have rival camps that rarely understand each other. Virtually everybody I know and encounter on the Internet thinks Valenti’s signal accomplishments are bad. He can claim credit for the anticircumvention provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which make it illegal to build your own DVD player and well-nigh impossible to watch DVDs legally under the GNU/Linux operating system, as well as the Federal Communication Commission’s Broadcast Flag, which will make it illegal or virtually impossible to build your own digital television receiver or, again, watch HDTV under Linux.

Everybody in Hollywood, and everybody in Congress, seems to love these things. There is little compromise, meeting of the minds, or mutual understanding, between these two sides.

Three years ago, I organized an MIT IAP class and invited Valenti to come. (He politely declined.) When the MPAA called to ask if I wanted to talk with him for ten minutes last week, I finally had my chance to take a shot at reaching some tiny mutual understanding.

I found Valenti woefully unfamiliar with the arguments of “our side” — the same arguments that “we” wank about every day on Zephyr, on Slashdot, and in 6.805 (Ethics and Law on the Electronic Frontier), the class I TAed for Professor Hal Abelson.

A compromise, or at least a solution to these issues that doesn’t involve outlawing all tinkering and all independent engineering, seems to be possible: we’re just not getting through to each other. The dystopia of Richard Stallman’s “The Right to Read” at www.gnu.org/philosophy/right-to-read.html is not an inevitability.

But if we can’t manage to have a real conversation with “the other side” — and a longer one than my ten minutes with Valenti — that’s where we might be headed.

Here are some excerpts from our conversation:

The Tech: You’re described by various people as the best lobbyist ever. Do you have any tips for the other side, about how they can achieve better victories in the legislative area?

Jack Valenti: I hope that I’m a good persuader, that I’m able to make advocacy of a cause that people say, “You know, that makes sense.” ‘Lobbyist’ has a connotation to me that gives me little shivers. But I like to believe that I try to make things simple to understand. And frankly, if I can understand it, then I figure everybody else can understand it, because I am not a technologist. ... But I try to make things simple and clear as I can, and I think that helps you persuade other people.

TT: Everybody I know thinks the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the Broadcast Flag are awful. And everybody in Congress disagrees. This does not lead to good debate and good public policy, when people can’t even talk to each other. How can we have a good debate on these topics?

JV: I don’t know. I go on forums, and panels, and Rich [Taylor, an MPAA spokesman] does the same. We’re available to anybody. I never believe in hostile debates. That’s not my style. I believe that we ought to talk objectively about it. I think for anything that I’m advocating, I’m willing to be in an open debate with anybody about it. Because if my ideas have no bottom, then they ought not be even heard.

The broadcast flag — if you are in your home, then you can copy anything that’s on over-the-air television to your heart’s content. The only time that you will know there’s a broadcast flag is if you try to take one of those copies and redistribute it on the Internet. Then, the flag says, ‘No, you can’t redistribute it.’ But you can do everything you’re doing right now — you’ll never know there’s a broadcast flag. Well, why would people object to it?

TT: I’ll tell you, because I’m an engineer. I’m an engineering student, and this year I built a high-definition television, from scratch. But because of the broadcast flag, if I wanted to do that again after July 2005, that would be illegal.

JV: How many people in the United States build their own sets?

TT: Well, I’m talking about engineers.

JV: Let’s say there are a thousand. But there

are 284 million people in this country. You can’t have public policy that is aimed at 100,000 people when the other multi-multi-millions are also involved. You can’t do it that way.

TT: Okay, let’s take a different example. Four years ago, you said that people who use Linux, which is about a million to two million people, who want to play DVDs, should get licensed DVD players and that those would be on the market soon.

JV: And we have those now.

TT: But today, you still cannot on the market actually buy a licensed DVD player for Linux.

JV: I didn’t know that.

TT: So the question is, do you think people who go to Blockbuster, they rent a movie, they bring it home, and they play it on Linux by circumventing the access control, are those people committing a moral transgression?

JV: I do not believe that you have the right to override an encryption. Because if you have the right to do it, everybody can do it. For whatever benign reason you have, somebody else has got one even more benign. But once you let one person deal in a digital copy — and I don’t have to tell you; you know far better than I that, unlike in analog, the ten thousandth copy is as pure as the original — it is a big problem. So once you let the barriers down for your perfectly sensible reason, you gotta let it down for everybody.

I don’t want to get into the definition of morality. I never said anything was immoral in what I was saying. I said it is wrong to take something that belongs to somebody else.

TT: Indeed, but are you doing that when you rent a movie from Blockbuster and you watch it at home? ... I run Linux on my computer. There’s no product I can buy that’s licensed to watch [DVDs]. If I go to Blockbuster and rent a movie and watch it, am I a bad person? Is that bad?

JV: No, you’re not a bad person. But you don’t have any right.

TT: But I rented the movie. Why should it be illegal?

JV: Well then, you have to get a machine that’s licensed to show it.

TT: Here’s one of these machines; it’s just not licensed.

[*Winstein shows Valenti his six-line “grppf” DVD descrambler.*]

TT: If you type that in, it’ll let you watch movies.

JV: You designed this?

JV: Yes.

JV: Un-fucking-believable.

TT: So the question is, if I just want to watch a movie—I rent it from Blockbuster—is that bad?

JV: No, that’s not bad.

TT: Then why should it be illegal?

Rich Taylor, MPAA public affairs: It’s not. ... You could put it in a DVD player, you could play it on any computer licensed for it.

JV: There’s lots of machines you can play it on.

TT: None under Linux. There’s no licensed player under Linux.

JV: But you’re trying to set your own standards.

TT: No, you said four years ago that people under Linux should use one of these licensed players that would be available soon. They’re still not available — it’s been four years.

JV: Well why aren’t they available? I don’t know, because I don’t make Linux machines.

Let me put it in my simple terms. If you take something that doesn’t belong to you, that’s wrong. Number two, if you design your own machine, you can’t fuss at people, because you’re one of just a few. How many Linux users are there?

TT: About two million.

JV: Well, I can’t believe there’s not any — there must be a reason for... Let me find out about that. You bring up an interesting question — I don’t know the answer to that... Well, you’re telling me a lot of things I don’t know.

TT: Okay. Well, how can we have this dialogue?

JV: Well, we’re having it right now. I want to try to find out the point you make on why are there no Linux licensed players. There must be a reason — there has to be a reason. I don’t know.

[*Rich Taylor, a spokesman for the MPAA, later pointed to one company, Intervideo, that has a license to sell GNU/Linux DVD software, although the company does not actually sell a product that Linux users can purchase. Linux users who want to watch DVDs should “perhaps buy a DVD player instead,” Taylor said, or “write to Intervideo and others, encourage them that they’re the market,” he said. Will Linux users ever be able to view DVDs on their computers without breaking the law? “I’m sure that day is not far away,” Taylor said.*]

A spokesman for Intervideo, Andy Marken, said the company’s product is only for embedded systems and that Intervideo has no plans to release a software player for end users.

Positive Sinking Freaking Out the Pre-frosh

By Akshay Patil

FEATURES EDITOR

mr. sinking

i was wondering, how long does it take u to come up with this stuff? does this stuff in all actuality pass through your head on a regular basis??

— curious miss

Well, you know, it greatly varies... sometimes I am a fertile field of ideas blossoming all over the place, but all too often I am a barren wasteland of nothing except for bits of trash blowing in the wind over the hot sand of my imagination.

When important stuff is happening on campus, such as CPW (Hi, pre-frosh!), it’s easier to come up with stuff. In fact, in the spirit of Campus Preview Weekend, I think I’m going to sing a song. Well, not really a song, more like a prose song which doesn’t have a melody to it... ok, fine, a column.

What to do during CPW

Sleep naked — Hey, this might be the one time this year you’ll actually have someone else willingly sleeping in your room. You better take advantage of it... who knows when the opportunity may knock again? I know, I know, they’re

young, innocent, and not the right gender, but hey, isn’t pickiness why random people aren’t sleeping in your room on a regular basis to begin with?

Eat free food — Who knows, maybe after x years at the Institute you still might have that bushy-eyed-bright-tailed look to you which identifies most pre-frosh from unnaturally aged MIT students. Just put a bewildered look on your face and next thing you know all the living groups, fraternities, and dorms will be throwing steak and lobster at you. It’s better than a career fair, because you can’t actually eat free t-shirts... well, you can, it just takes some effort and a large vat of boiling water. Syrup helps too, but that’s optional.

Interbreed the pre-frosh — Pre-frosh have the sexual drive of a horny rabbit hocked up on Viagra. They’re like virtual pets, you remember those? You can lock up your pre-frosh with someone else’s pre-frosh and see how many little pre-frosh emerge. Just remember to feed them, otherwise the next time you look at your keychain they’ll all have their little nerdy feet in the air with big x’s for eyes. And you wouldn’t want that, would you?

Go on an MIT tour — And make sure you ask lots of annoying questions. You know, like “Wait, are those crying sounds I hear?” or “If you’re so cool, how come you go to MIT?” If you’re feeling especially mean, you can ask

“Doesn’t Harvard have that? Except better?” Go wild. Making the parents in the crowd uncomfortable is always a plus, too.

Hit on pre-frosh — Hey, they’re people too. Just small people who haven’t taken multi-variable calculus yet. And, you know, there’s like a 75 percent chance that they’ll be around in September, so you can look for true love or live life dangerously... depending on what turns you on (besides light switches). Besides, they didn’t travel all the way to Boston just to hear about the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program, if you get my drift.

Switch identities with a pre-frosh — And I don’t mean “just for the weekend,” if you’re going to do it, then go whole hog. If you’re a senior, then your pre-frosh can get their MIT degree in just a matter of a month! Who could turn that down? And you can return back to wherever the hell they’re from, go to prom (I mean, seriously, wouldn’t you love to relive prom?), and enjoy a carefree summer before heading off to DeVry University. And if you switch with a pre-frosh of opposite gender, you could cross-dress! It’s the best of both worlds.

So this one time, Andy Newman sent this e-mail to sinking@mit.edu and a giant moth came out of the ground and bit his head off. I swear. Are we there yet?

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Scratch Paper

The Bell Curve Life

By Tiffany Kosolcharoen
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

I want a simple life: a nice little home, cute kids, a guy to chat with for 80 years, a dog to run alongside me everyday, and daily sunshine. Yet, do I really? No matter how much we say my happiness is independent of others, we live life on the bell curve. In our case, at the 99.99th percentile.

Nobody aspires to live at the center of the bell curve life, where most people end up. We do not want to be an average Dilbert, holed up in a cubicle as a corporate slave. We do not want kids with average intellects or salaries at the mean of this bell curve. A little to the right, please.

Hopeless studying

Still, as I sit here writing this column instead of studying for a 6.041 test this Wednesday night, I wonder what it takes to make it on top. You see, I could be studying and studying. And studying. All this preparation could still amount to nothing at the time of the test, which some MIT geniuses could have taken on their first birthday.

Knowing that I won't be scoring 100 percent, 99 percent, or even 98 percent, I am once again a slave to the bell curve. It's what my neighbors get that matters. I'm hoping everyone does worse than me so that I can end up better than average.

Ill-wishing

I did the same thing during the World Championships of skating. "Stop ill-wishing the skaters," my dad told me one night as I watched figure skater Michelle Kwan's competitors perform. I was hoping that everyone but Michelle would fall so that my favorite athlete would win once again.

Yet, none of this squabbling makes us any happier. That's probably why watching sports isn't exactly the most stress-free, lazy-on-the-beach activity. Neither is reading the news. I'm asking myself: is it worth this increased blood pressure?

Think about uniforms at private schools. When everyone is the same, and the fashion bell curve appears to be eliminated, our "clothing communism" makes us itch to be unique. Notice how uniformed kids tend to decorate their hair, shoe-laces, and backpacks more heavily than non-uniformed students.

So if we will always try to create a bell curve for ourselves, are we always going to be subject to the negativity it creates?

Success of self

I'm learning to live life on my own personal bell curve. I define success as being better than I was at something in the past.

That means eliminating mediocrity and laziness. It means doing more than 6.041, the results of which I could never properly control due to the genius skew. That means getting enough sleep so that in the morning, I can wake up and be a contributing human being. That means reaching out to others, and learning to give — whether it is my friendship, thoughts, or knowledge.

It is easy to live life in terms of other people's definition of happiness. People often quantify happiness in terms of money: if you win the lottery, you'll be happy. That's not true, many lottery winners lose their friends over the battle for something so material as cash.

Honestly, I don't believe Bill Gates is any happier with his wealth. I'm guessing his concern for his children's security is probably causing more of a headache.

Plus, a million dollars won't buy you health and a healthy life perspective.

I still want a simple life: a nice little home, cute kids, a guy to chat with for at least 80 years, a dog to run alongside me everyday, and daily sunshine. Although I shall continue to work toward my ambitions, I realize fulfillment does not depend on society's bell curve standards.

Simplify.

Happy CPW!

Sex and the SafeRide

How do you Measure Up?

By Alex Nelson
FEATURES COLUMNIST

Does size matter? I would like to offer the following argument: technically yes, but usually no. For those in the population who are one standard deviation away from the mean penis size, there is little to worry about (don't worry, that is roughly 68 percent of men). Those in the tails of the standard normal penis size distribution have their work cut out for them.

Many men have revealed their insecurities about penis size. There are even infomercials that prey on the fear. Guys seem scared to death that they might be smaller than average. Ever since that first team shower in the locker room after practice, boys began to compare. Apparently they "never dropped the soap," but I do not believe a word of it. A boy wouldn't be caught dead staring at his naked male friends, but what's to stop him from catching a quick glimpse?

My suspicions were easily confirmed based on rumors spread during high school. There was a boy in my school who had the nickname "Chode" and another boy who his friends liked to call "Anteater." I wonder where these names came from? Honestly, I'd rather not know, so let's turn the focus back to size.

For women, a small penis is hard to work with because frankly, it is hard to take seriously. Something so small as a cocktail wiener can hardly turn us on or make him look manly. But for us, a giant penis is just as bad. Dating a pornstar might get some women off mentally, but there isn't much that he can do for a woman

physically. A typical vagina is only five to seven inches deep when aroused, so you do the math.

In a Sex and the City episode, Samantha complains because she is dating a very well-endowed man after just "finishing" with a midget man. Carrie asks her, "Who are you? Goldilocks?" Men may be asking women the same question. But really, to us there is so much more to take into account than size alone. But what's a man to do who finds himself in either of these extreme categories? Is all hope lost for a decent sex life? Men finding themselves with a size disadvantage may have additional obstacles to overcome in the bedroom. In the end, any man can still be a very satisfying lover if he learns to work around his handicap.

In general, size is not the sole determinate of success in the bedroom. What matters most is sexual energy, expertise, and creativity. Of course women will prefer something that is nice to look at and hold on to, but what we really need is a man who can treat us right. And I don't mean treat us to dinner and expensive presents (we can do that for ourselves). We desire a man who knows how to get the job done.

Quoting one of my friends and an old adage, "It's not what he has, but whether he knows how to use it or not." The underlying issue is whether he has the skills.

A popular TV show of the late 90s, Singled Out on MTV, often danced around this issue. With Jenny McCarthy for a host, one could hardly expect anything more (or should I say less?). In one part of the show, contestants stand

a number of spaces away from a contestant of the opposite sex and are allowed to move forward if their answers to questions match those of the target contestant. During one episode, male contestants were asked which is more important: the motion of the ocean or the size of the wave? Believe it or not, the woman picked the motion of the ocean.

A blonde bimbo's preferences on an MTV show do not add much to my argument, however they do help to solidify a new notion that a man's mentality in the bedroom is also important.

Women definitely do not come with a directions manual (guys all your experience with "man-gadgets" will not help you here). A man must be able to direct himself. Knowing what to do and how to do it is extremely important. Of course every woman is different, so men should not expect to move from one woman to the next without changing his style or technique (if he has it).

Something that might please us one week won't do a thing the following week. Therefore, men must have multiple skills. They must be determined. They mustn't give up. And most importantly they must have a goal in mind. This goal should be an obvious one.

In summary, we women will not judge you on size alone. Much more than that will be taken into consideration as we evaluate your performance. Of course we will compare you to everything we've had before and the things we hope to have in the near future (as in right now).

Gadget Review – Saitek P3000 Wireless USB Gamepad

By Kailas Narendran
FEATURES COLUMNIST

Pros

- Wireless for convenience and cool factor
- Multiple, rechargeable battery packs
- Software provides extra functionality

Cons

- Only 2 channels for multi player
- 2 channels don't work equivalently

The lowdown

The P3000 from Saitek offers PC gamers the freedom of wireless gaming. The system consists of a wireless gamepad and receiver/stand with battery charger. It comes with two battery packs to allow you to game 'til you get your fifth-week flag from your 18.02 TA.

The game pad has a gratuitous LCD display that indicates if you're in "analog" or "digital" mode, which channel you're on, and the battery level. In "standard mode" the system can function like a standard USB gamepad. When you use the "advanced settings," you can program one of the many buttons to perform keystrokes (useful for some of today's more complicated games). Although you get two radio channels, they don't necessarily work equivalently, so it's really a one player system.

A nice change

When I got my laptop two years ago I

decided I didn't want to get the embedded wireless connection. Sure, I didn't think it would catch on this fast, but in reality, I was afraid of the effect the radiation would have when I worked with the computer on my lap (one of my failed \$50k ideas "The Lead Codpiece"). But I digress.

Now that I finally caved in and got a wireless card, the whole world has changed (except for the failure of my codpiece). Having gamed for a while with wired controllers, the wireless is a very liberating change. I hate the number of wires that have to run everywhere in a modern computer. With the wireless features of this game pad you can relax on your couch while playing your favorite console game, rather than sitting in your comfy wooden dorm chair feeling like you're working on your "Super Mario 64" pset. I also think you can safely leave the game pad on your lap without having to worry about the whole codpiece problem.

Not-so-multi

One thing that disappointed me about this product was the lack of massive multiplayer functionality. It would be great if there were one receiver and you could have an unlimited number of controllers connected to it. In the end, however, it seems like real multiplayer console type games are few and far between (they're mostly just console emulations).

Although this system has two channels, theoretically allowing two players simultaneously,

the two channels don't necessarily work equivalently well. In general, you can find one channel that works well where you are (I'm not sure what factors affect which channel is better), but don't bet on both working. The range is theoretically 30'. If you live in the Boston area, chances are that the largest dimension of your room isn't even half of that, so it's not a problem.

Software add-ons

The software included allows you to program keystrokes into your game pad buttons. For example, if you needed to type "idkfa" on the drop of a dime into your game (two points if you remember that, maybe you're all too young now), you could put that functionality at the tip of your index finger.

See me, feel me

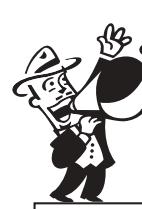
Finally, the look and feel of this system is pretty solid. The design is very comfortable, and the switches and joysticks feel robust. I didn't have any problems with the system crapping out or breaking on me, even with some drops.

The bottom line

The MSRP for this system is \$40, and it can be purchased directly from Saitek at their Yahoo! store. I didn't have much luck finding it elsewhere for any less. You can find out more at <http://www.saitekusa.com/>.

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ARTS

DANCE REVIEW

Alvin Ailey Troupe's Choreography Consumes the Stage

Dance Numbers Brim with Emotion

By Katherine S. Ryan

*Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
Wang Center for the Performing Arts
April 13, 7:30 p.m.; April 14–17, 8 p.m.; April
17, 2 p.m.; April 18, 3 p.m.*

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is among the most well-regarded dance companies in the world, and its performances have been lauded for their artistry, athleticism, and cultural value. The company's yearly arrival in Boston is anticipated with posters draping lampposts and buses around the city, and the company members are welcomed with open arms by enthusiastic audiences. Their performance on

Tuesday lived up to the hype.

In their opening night performance, their trademark dance, "Revelations," (danced at almost every show they perform) was prefaced with three pieces that demonstrated a solid range of artistic intentions. The first was a dance of collapse and sudden silences, the second of passion and rapture, and the third of neurotic chaos. The music was equally varied — from Moroccan chanting to disco-esque electronica to insistent percussion. The dancers were astounding throughout; they contorted and extended and flipped themselves in all directions, flaunting their well-muscled selves as they engaged the choreography. Dancers are often called athletes, but these company mem-

bers had football-player quadriceps and rower lats. They use their myofibrils well; they are able to use their strength, or to control it, as the movement demands.

In the most stunning of these first three pieces, called "Treading," dancer Clifton Brown, bathed in yellow-pink light, danced from his seat on the stage. He then rose, appearing immense in the spotlight. He moved back to his partner, Lisa-Denise Fisher-Harrell, pulling her up to the light and then disappearing into the shadows. She, too, relished her solo, moving her arms like wings and twisting herself to the music of Steve Reich.

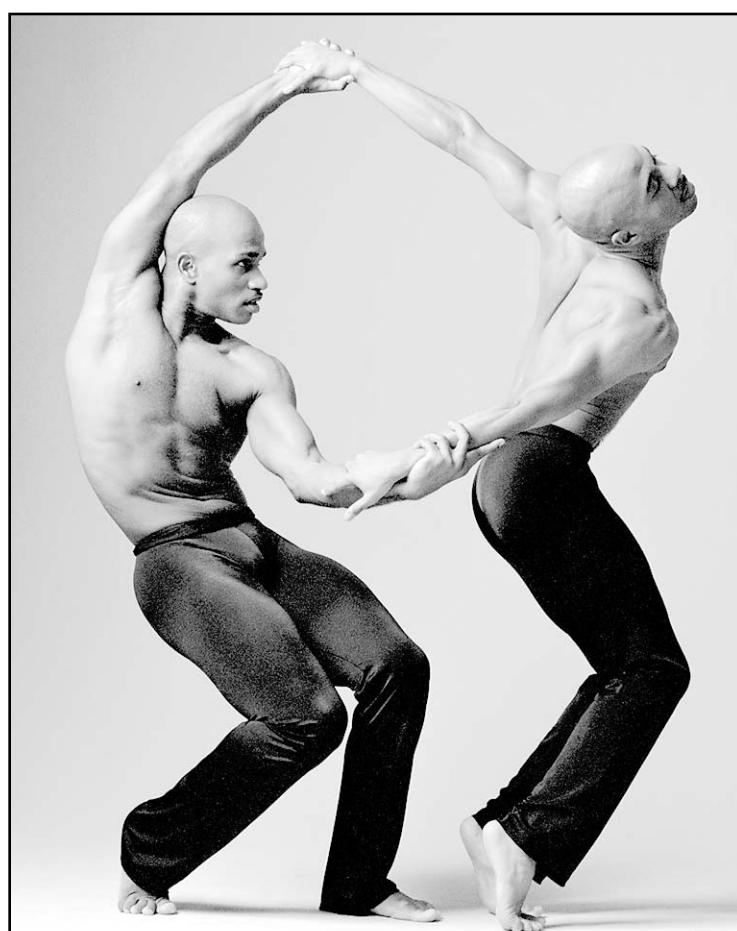
Then Brown

reemerged, and the two joined together, wrapping one limb around the other, enmeshing their arms, legs, and chests and creeping their bodies one over the other. This was a duo of passion — sensual, beating, and mesmerizing. As Brown pulled his partner off stage, the crowd burst into gasps and applause.

Immediately following this, "Juba" took on a drastically different tone. Held together first like paper-puppets at the hands, holding their arms extended to the air, four blue-costumed players danced in unison, twirling around the stage. Next they broke off to beat their hands on their knees, gyrate wildly to the rapid beat, and run repeatedly in square formations. The ground was initially lit in dramatic yellow lighting, but dissolved into blue, and the dancers ended one movement by collapsing in unison into a rectangle of space lit up on the floor. The dance suggested a chaotic nightmare and the epilepsy of frustration.

Last, to the delight of the old-time fans edgy with anticipation, the final piece, "Revelations," began. This series of dances is set to gospel tunes. It begins with the company melodiously extending their hands to the sky and executing grande plies, bodies draped in long sand-colored dresses or woven vests. The motions, lighting, and costumes suggest an emergence of people from the soil. The dance morphs next into pure white — the dancers at first look like aristocrats out for a picnic, except that their movements are too raw, and the piece in the end suggests the purity of renewal. The dancers wear flowing white dresses, twirl huge white parasols, or drag poles decorated with shredded white banners. Finally, in the last part of the piece, nine women dressed up in Sunday church dresses, flapping hand-held fans frantically, come out to nag at their suitors and to dance furiously to the finger-snapping beat of "Rocka My Soul." The crowd roared with enthusiasm through the bows, and stayed to clap for the entire encore.

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is here until the end of the week, set to perform the opening night's program again tomorrow night. "Revelations" will be shown at all but one show, together with other favorites and newer concoctions; especially promising is "Hymn," a piece to be performed on Sunday. Student rush tickets (\$20) are available for each performance two hours before the curtain.



Matthew Rushing and Glen Sims of the Alvin Ailey Dance Company perform in Boston through Sunday.

ANDREW ECCLES

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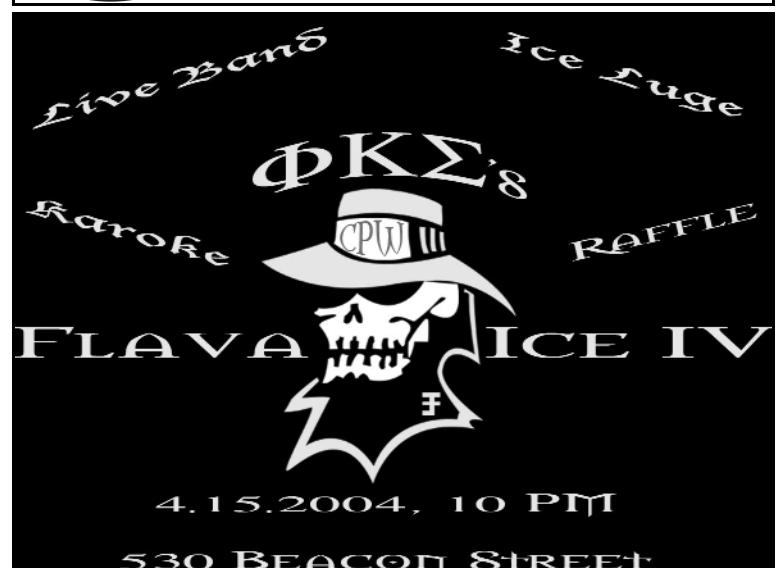
STEVE OLSON discussing his book

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Running Totals for APO's "Big Screw" Contest

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Charles M. Vest, MIT President Make a Wish Foundation	\$16.99	\$87.96	\$119.48	\$145.04
Robert C. Miller (6.170) Habitat for Humanity of Boston	\$10.85	\$38.89	\$92.09	\$141.58
Robert M. Randolph, Senior Associate Dean for Students Hospice of Cambridge	\$3.88	\$40.40	\$92.02	\$131.67
Karen A. Nilsson, Director of Housing American Cancer Society	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.12	\$58.93
John W. Belcher (8.02T) Angell Memorial Pet Hospital	\$2.86	\$6.13	\$8.68	\$35.79
Byron M. Roscoe (6.101) The New England Home for Little Wanderers	\$1.25	\$3.01	\$15.16	\$35.27
Duane S. Boning (6.001) Pine Street Inn	\$13.59	\$23.55	\$29.91	\$34.60
Sarah A. Tabacco (5.12) Alliance for Animals Metro Action Clinic	\$6.25	\$14.30	\$18.08	\$21.48
Haynes R. Miller (18.03) Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.21	\$10.98
Earnest G. Cravalho (2.006)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.89
Webley Jean-Baptiste (18.085)	\$0.00	\$1.04	\$1.86	\$3.86
Robert A. Weinberg (7.012)	\$0.52	\$1.52	\$1.54	\$2.66
Write-ins	\$5.09	\$16.73	\$47.02	\$90.70

The total at the end of Thursday, April 15 was \$717.54, compared with \$622.88 at the same time last year.

MIT Theater Arts: Dramashop & GSP Productions



The MIT Gilbert and Sullivan Players production of "Thespis" opened April 9, and runs through Saturday in La Sala de Puerto Rico.

(left) Mars (Robert Morrison '96) is outraged by faux Mars Timidon's (Bradley Timmers) announcement that he had eliminated war amongst men. Thespis (Andrew Sweet), faux Jupiter, tries to calm the real God of War.

(below) The mortal Nicemis (Ashley H. Kim '04) ascends to Godhood as the new Diana, Goddess of the Moon, hunt, and nature.

Photography by Wan Yusof Wan Morshidi



The MIT Dramashop production of Tolstoy's "Power of Darkness" opened April 8, and runs through this evening in Kresge Little Theater.

Above left: Anisia (Jessica E. Hinel '04) and Matryana (Olga Fedorishcheva) laugh over their plot in manipulating Nikita and his father Peter.

Below: Nikita (James Dai G) is arrested by a police officer (Michael T. Wolf '06) after he confesses to a murder, while his father Akim (Max Goldman '04) tries to ease the situation.

Left: Peter (Arshan J. Gailus '06), old and dying with a sickness, reflects on his life and mistakes.

Photography by Wan Yusof Wan Morshidi





Massachusetts Institute of Technology MIT Medical, E23-308
77 Massachusetts Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139-4307

Getting the most from MIT

Mental Health Service helps students succeed

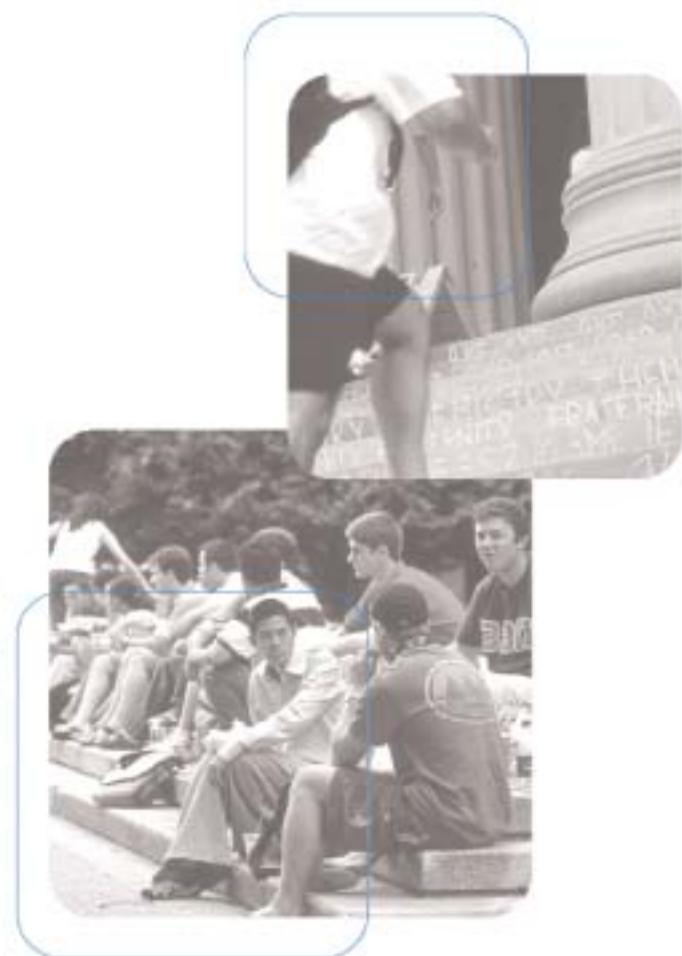
Associate chief of Mental Health Kristine Girard, M.D., is one adult who can truly claim to know how it feels to be an MIT student. Girard, who graduated from MIT in 1986, remembers the rapid pace of problem sets, facing two exams in one day, and struggling to strike a balance between academics and other facets of life. "I really loved my experience here, but it was a tough adjustment, particularly because I came from a performing arts high school," she explains. "I enjoyed math and science, but I wasn't used to seeing equations in music class," she laughs.

The first year of college is a time of transition for every student, notes Mental Health chief Alan Siegel, Ed.D. "I want to help students anticipate the stresses associated with academic life and develop new kinds of responses," he says. "We can help students find options for managing many different types of challenges—from academic to interpersonal, to dealing with new life experiences, developing a career, making friends, and coping with success and failure."

Psychiatrist Bina Patel, M.D., and social worker James Chansky, L.I.C.S.W., run a support group where freshmen can discuss common concerns, including being away from home for the first time, academic pressure, and feelings of loneliness and isolation. "Undergraduates have such curiosity and enthusiasm and grow so much in these years," Patel says. "I love being part of that growth process."

MIT also offers other services to help students make the transition to college life. These include Counseling and Support Services, the Academic Resource Center, the International Students Office, and the Office of Residence Life, which includes graduate resident tutors (GRTs), residence life associates (RLAs), and housemasters in the living groups and dorms.

Of her own transition to Institute life, Girard says taking an extra humanities class and joining the crew team made it easier for her to cope with the new academic demands she was facing. "Once I adjusted to the pace and the academic demands, I was able to try some new activities and make friends from all over the world," she says. "My role now is to help current MIT students strike their own balance."



Accessing mental health services

Over the past few years, MIT Medical has made several changes to help students access mental health services more quickly and easily. In a system started two years ago, new patients can have a 20-minute, same-day phone consultation with one of three senior mental health clinicians, and then receive a regular appointment within a week. "It provides for quicker needs assessment, decreased waiting time for appointments, and better matching of patients and clinicians," says Mental Health chief Alan Siegel, Ed.D.

Individuals with urgent concerns—including new patients—may also visit the Mental Health Service during walk-in hours, Monday through Friday from 2-4 p.m., or call in the morning and be seen the same day. A mental health clinician is always on call for emergencies on nights and weekends through Urgent Care (617-253-1311).

For more information about MIT Medical's Mental Health Service, call 617-253-2916 or visit the MIT Medical website, <http://web.mit.edu/medical>.



Campus Preview Weekend

MIT Medical Open House

Friday, April 16, 7-11 p.m.

Come to the 4th floor of MIT Medical (E23) and learn more about health services at MIT

Vol. 1, No. 3

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call us 617-253-4481

log on web.mit.edu/medical

are headphones safe?

Dear MedLink: My music listening habits are creating a conflict with my roommates' quieter ways. I sympathize with them and want to buy headphones for my stereo, but I am concerned about warnings that headphones can be harmful to one's hearing. Can a couple hours of listening a day really lead to deafness? —Concerned Music Lover

Dear Concerned: I'm an avid music listener, too. And when my neighbors started complaining about the "cacophony" coming from my room, my solution was headphones. But until receiving your question, I hadn't even thought about their potential for harm. So, thanks for raising the issue!

In researching this answer, I was surprised to learn that many portable audio players can be turned up as high as 114 decibels! How loud is that? Well, if you're at the Kendall Square T station when the subway train grinds to a halt, you're only being exposed to about 90 dB. Just eight hours of exposure to noise that loud could result in permanent hearing damage.

Still, MIT Medical audiologist Christine Rabinowitz, M.A., CCC-A, tells me there is no risk in using headphones to listen to any type of music, for any length of time, as long as it is played at a comfortable listening level. This is about the level of normal conversation, or around 60 dB. If your roommates can hear music "leaking" from your headphones, it's probably too loud. And if the music sounds distorted, if your ears buzz while listening, or if your hearing feels slightly muffled or you have difficulty understanding speech in noisy places after listening, it's definitely too loud.

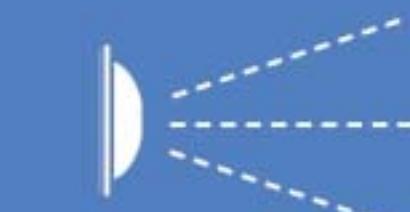
You should also take frequent listening breaks to avoid "listening fatigue," a decreasing sensitivity to sound levels over time that may prompt you to turn up the volume as you continue to listen. Rabinowitz also warns against headphone use with loud background noise levels—for example, if someone is vacuuming nearby. "In situations like that, you will automatically increase the volume without realizing the intensity is too much for your ears," she says.

Thanks again for raising an important issue, and happy listening! —Victoria '06

WE DON'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

All questions appearing in this column are real questions submitted by real people and answered by real MedLinks.

Do you have a question? Send it by email to askmedlink@mit.edu, submit it anonymously using the online form at <http://web.mit.edu/medlinks/www/>, or use campus mail (Ask A MedLink, E23-4481). We can't respond individually, but we'll answer as many questions as we can in this space. And you can always feel free to talk with a MedLink in person; see web.mit.edu/medlinks/www/ to find the MedLink(s) in your living group.



vision

Welcome to MIT Medical

Welcome to MIT Medical. Located on the east side of campus, MIT Medical provides care to the entire Institute community and offers a wide range of specialties not found at traditional university health services.

You can find lots of information about MIT Medical on our website—web.mit.edu/medical—but this article will help you begin using our services. We'll start with the basics: choosing a doctor, making an appointment, and Urgent Care.

Choosing a doctor

All students should choose a personal physician from within MIT Medical's Internal Medicine Service. Personal physicians provide routine care and referrals. Brief bios of our doctors are available online at <http://web.mit.edu/medical/services/s/internal.html>.

- New students can choose a personal physician by completing the physician choice form, available online at <http://web.mit.edu/medical/g-choosingform.html>, or by calling Claims and Member Services at x3-5979.
- Most returning students already have a personal physician. If you've forgotten your doctor's name, call x3-4481. To change your personal physician, simply follow the instructions for choosing a physician.

Making an appointment

- Internal Medicine appointments are available from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Call your doctor's office directly to make an appointment.
- Same-day appointments are usually available for patients who are sick. If your doctor is not available, you may be able to see another doctor or nurse practitioner.
- Appointments in the Mental Health Service are available from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and until 5 p.m. on Friday, except holidays. To make an appointment, call x3-2916. You'll be offered a 20-minute, same-day phone consultation with a mental health clinician, and you'll get an initial appointment within a week. For individuals with urgent concerns, Mental Health also offers walk-in hours Monday through Friday from 2-4 p.m.

Urgent Care

Care for urgent medical needs is available 24 hours a day, every day. No appointments are needed, but sickest patients are given priority. In general, waiting times are shortest before 11 a.m. Call the Urgent Care Service at x3-1311 (617-253-1311 from off campus) day or night for advice. If you can't come in on your own, call Campus Police at 100 or x3-1212 to contact the 24-hour student ambulance service.

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Set your sights on MIT Medical.

CONCS

FUN PAGES

Page 12

April 16, 2004

Filler Space

TAKES TWO DAYS OFF

by Jason Burns

**Trio**April 24th: OFFICIAL MIT EGG VIDEO GAME TOURNAMENT! details: alum.mit.edu/www/emezie/

by Emezie Okorafor

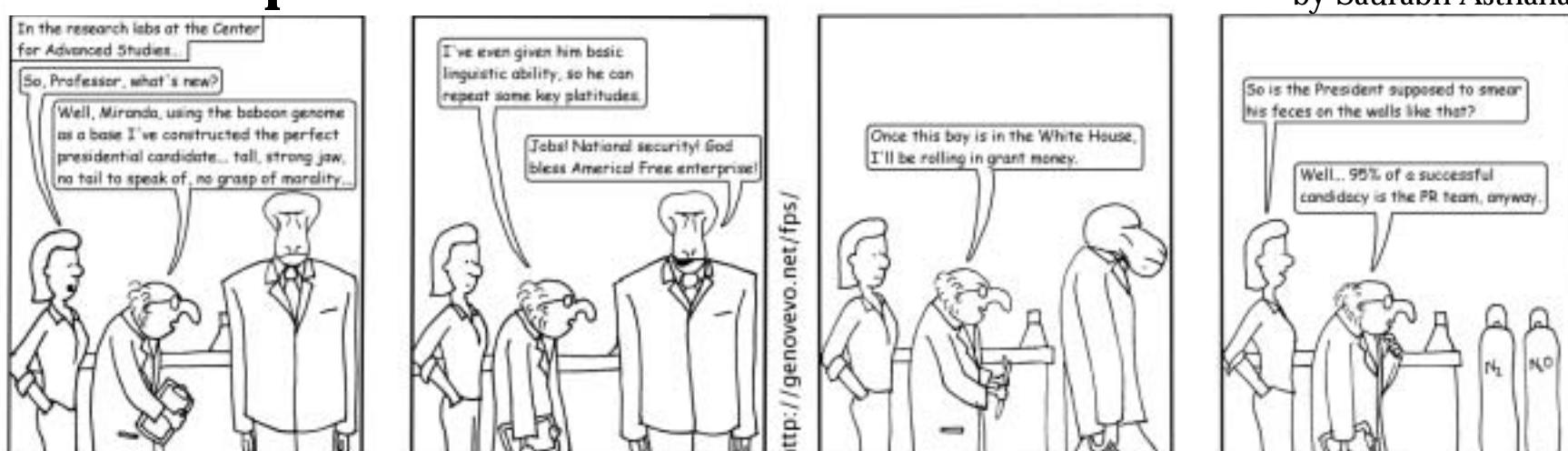


J-kwon is smarter than you think

by Brian Loux

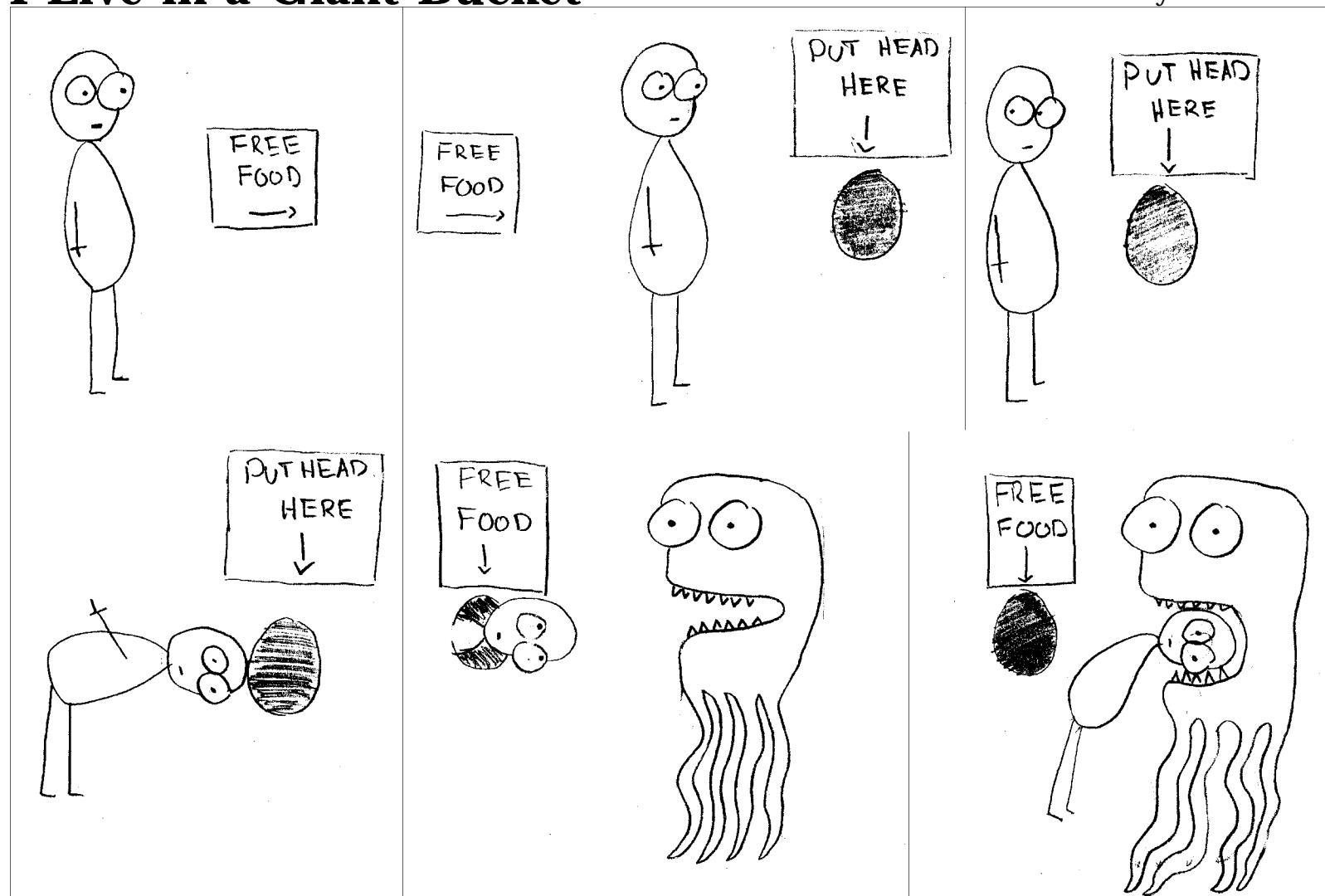
**Fascist Popsicle Stand**

by Saurabh Asthana



I Live in a Giant Bucket

by Adam Love

**FoxTrot**

by Bill Amend

Dilbert® by Scott Adams**Crossword Puzzle***Solution, page 15*

ACROSS

1 Service sector position
6 Astrologer Sydney
11 Dads
14 Chicago airport
15 Worth
16 Haughtily aloof
17 See 73A
19 Tavern by a tube stop
20 Whopper
21 Oteri of "SNL"
23 Toddler
27 Payback
30 Dodger
32 Repeat verbatim
33 Electrical unit
34 Corrects program errors
36 "JAG" network
39 Of a pelvic bone
41 By way of
42 — Hall U.

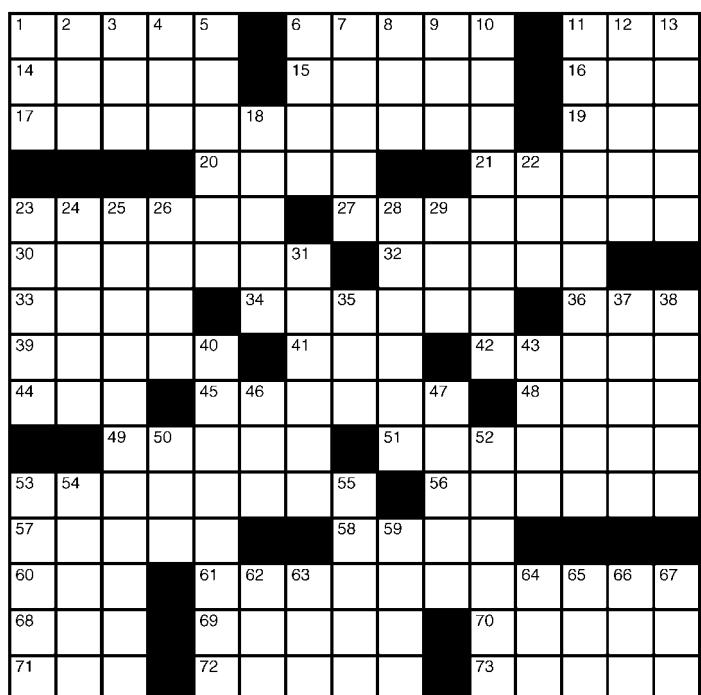
44 Part of ASCAP
45 Go-betweens
48 Winter coat?
49 Miscue
51 Place for a stud
53 Lets off the hook
56 Ballpark frank
57 Actress Gaynor
58 Cry out loud
60 Greek letter
61 See 73A
68 Actor Chaney
69 Fragrant shrub
70 Vamoose!
71 H.S. subj.
72 Archie's better half
73 17A, 61A, 11D and 25D

DOWN

1 Gretchen of "Attraction"
2 Greek X

3 Artist Vermeer
4 Mork's planet
5 Outwitted
6 Roundish shape
7 Large wooden goblet
8 In the style of
9 Capek play
10 Disaster-relief outfit
11 See 73A
12 Legend maker
13 Ms. Thorndike
18 Despised
22 Success
23 Writer Gallant
24 Convex molding
25 See 73A
26 Pocket bread
28 Treat as identical
29 Wrinkly-faced, curly-tailed canine
31 Midnight rider
35 Open container

37 Ice-cream cake
38 Villainous look
40 City near Harrisburg
43 Agatha's contemporary
46 State off.
47 Like cut wood
50 Peri on "Frasier"
52 Having the worst b.o.
53 More than enough
54 American buffalo
55 Workout wetness
59 Incise deeply
62 Young goat
63 Actor Wallach
64 TV adjunct
65 Tax deferral letters
66 Tooth or toothpaste topper
67 Emma's twins?



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Arrow St. Criticizes Price Controls

Crepes, from Page 1

as it became clear that Arrow Street could not compete with the other food vendors in the Student Center, Murray said.

"We had very high expectations for success," he said. "We had very much wanted to continue operation, but had to make a decision based on numbers."

"We have to cut our losses, as much as we have enjoyed serving the MIT community, and move on to other projects," Murray said.

Arrow Street criticizes MIT

"The Office of Campus Dining has a mandate to offer the community high quality food, but it's very difficult to offer the kind of food we prepare, which is non-processed food," said Murray.

He also criticized MIT's policy of controlling prices, saying that it detracts from business in the Harvard Square store and is not complimentary to the type of food Arrow Street serves.

"The Office of Campus Dining permits one price increase a year," Murray said. "The reality of the commodities market that we deal with is a stark contrast to the idea of price controls."

Murray cited a recent 40 percent price increase in the dairy market and fluctuating prices for fresh strawberries as an example of the factors that make it difficult to conform to MIT's pricing structure. The cost of fresh strawberries runs from \$15 per case when they are in season to \$56 per case when they aren't, he said.

With the closing of the MIT shop, Arrow Street plans to expand its store in Harvard Square by opening a new space at 1154 Massachusetts Avenue. Murray said that most of the employees of the MIT branch will be able to work in the new store.

"It is our hope to retain as many of our employees as would be willing to move to our Harvard Square store," Murray said.

Survey asks for suggestions

Berlin said he expects a new vendor to move into the space during the summer and be ready to reopen in early fall.

He said the Office of Campus Dining has posted an online survey to gather feedback and suggestions for what kind of vendor the campus would like to see move into the space. The survey is available at <http://web.mit.edu/dining/feedback/surveys.html>.

Berlin said that the space would be suitable for both an independent restaurant and a chain. "The way it's set up, it doesn't need a lot of changes. The changes we made to build the crepe restaurant can be reconfigured."

He said he expects a large number of responses from interested vendors. "There's not a more visible retail spot on all of campus," he said.

The Campus Dining Advisory Board, made up of members from the Undergraduate Association, the Graduate Student Council, faculty, and staff, will choose the new vendor, Berlin said.

He said they will be looking for several factors, including a desire to be at MIT, necessary resources, and the ability to make sure MIT is financially compensated.

"It's a matter of making sure we're choosing the right venue so that people go there and it's popular," said Berlin.

MIT Employees' Social Security Numbers Found in Public File

By Tatyana Lugovskaya

Social security numbers and MIT identification numbers of over 11,000 MIT employees were posted in a publicly accessible file for six months.

In mid-March, the MIT Corporation found out that the file was online, said Kathryn A. Willmore, vice president and secretary of the MIT Corporation. The file included information about all non-students employed by MIT as of Sept. 5, 2003, she said.

Administrators said it is unlikely that anyone accessed the file, other than the person who reported it to MIT.

"We know from the beginning of March to mid-March, only one person accessed" the file: the person who reported it, Willmore said. "We don't keep records beyond a few weeks," she said, but "we take a little comfort that only one person" accessed the document during the period of time for which records are available.

"I'm one of the people" in the file, said Jeffrey I. Schiller '79, network manager for Information Services & Technology. "I'm not worried."

File public, found in Google

"Basically, a programmer was going through an extraction from one of our systems, and accidentally left [the file] in that [public] directory," Schiller said.

"We do know who put it there," said Jerrold M. Grochow, vice president for IS&T. "We have thoroughly investigated and realized it was accidental." Grochow declined to say whether this person was reprimanded.

Administrators found out about the public file when an alumnus came across it in a Google search for an MIT employee.

The alumnus noticed one result "was a very odd mixture of numbers and letters" and called MIT immediately upon realization of what the file was, Willmore said.

Schiller said his first reaction was "like anybody's first reaction. We didn't know how bad it was,

[so] initially I was very concerned."

IS&T immediately took the file down and contacted Google to have them remove their cache of the file, Willmore said.

Schiller said the IS&T staff searched for the file in "all the other search engines we could find," and the file did not come up in any of these searches.

Five report potential ID fraud

"There was no credit card information in the file," Grochow said. "The reason we are referring people to credit card bureaus is that if there is any issue of identity theft, this is where it would show up first."

"We've heard from about five people who think they might be victims of identity theft," Willmore said. She said MIT is working with these people to "get their records cleaned up" and figure out whether they are really victims of identity fraud.

The IS&T staff "should be meticulous in doing their work so that it doesn't happen again," said Martha Lugo, a former MIT Media Laboratory staff member. "Nobody wants to be in a situation where their identity gets stolen."

MIT offers advice, support

All affected MIT employees received letters explaining the situation on March 23, a week after administrators learned of the problem. Employees were told it was unlikely that anyone had viewed the file, but that they should review their personal records.

Willmore said they delayed making an announcement in order to figure out exactly what had happened, how much damage had been done, and what advice and support they could offer.

For example, she said, they arranged a mechanism by which a person who did not qualify for a free credit report could obtain one, with MIT footing the bill.

Willmore said MIT has offered to give any affected employee a new MIT identification number, though there is little an identity thief could do with a person's MIT

ID number.

The department of human resources is currently monitoring the questions that staff have about this issue, both those coming to the department directly and those calling the hotline set up by IS&T, said Laura Avakian, vice president for human resources. "We want to assure that employees get answers," Avakian said.

MIT reviews policies, procedures

Schiller said it is particularly important to be careful with files left in AFS, Athena's distributed file system.

IS&T is currently reviewing all public access folders on Athena, Grochow said. "The Athena system has literally tens of thousands of public access folders," he said. "We are reviewing the folders that are used by the IS&T staff, and if it makes sense to restrict them, we will."

Grochow said that many faculty, students, and staff have files in public folders that provide course material or other information that they want to have publicly available. Therefore, the decision to restrict folders will have to be made on a case-by-case basis. Creators of any folders can restrict access using Athena commands on their own, he said.

Google cached one percent of data

Schiller said Google only caches and indexes the first 100KB of any given file. Thus, "Google indexed only about 1 percent of the file," or about 100 names, he said.

However, before the original file was taken down, anyone who accessed the file by searching for one of 100 indexed names would have been able to view the entire file.

"It sounded pretty dramatic when we first learned of it, and it is, in a sense," Willmore said. "But because Google indexed only one percent of the file, there was a smaller chance of people coming across it."

For more information, visit <http://web.mit.edu/infoprotect>.

Jennifer Krishnan contributed to the reporting of this story.

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MIT Department of FACILITIES

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Building 18 construction on Saturday morning

Construction on the lobby of Building 18 will take place this Saturday, April 17. The work entails the breaking and removal of glass from the first floor lobby. As a result there will be trucks and workers in the area beginning early Saturday and continuing throughout the day.



This information provided by the MIT Department of Facilities.
Visit our new website at web.mit.edu/facilities.

Lost Prefrosh:
Come to
Room 483 in
the Student
Center

Solution to Crossword

from page 13

M	C	J	O	B	O	M	A	R	R	P	A	S
O	H	A	R	E	V	A	U	L	E	I	C	Y
L	I	N	K	S	H	A	Z	A	R	D	P	U
T	A	L	E	C	H	E	R	I				
M	O	P	P	E	T	R	E	P	R	I	S	A
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MIT Policy Changes Improve Hiring, Environment

Women, from Page 1

numbers have increased to 13.5 percent in the School of Science and 50, or 14 percent, in the School of Engineering, Hopkins said.

According to the 2002 report, the number of women faculty in the Sloan School of Management has fluctuated, with 16 percent in 1993 and 15 percent in 1999. Currently the number is 18 percent, said Professor Lotte Bailyn, who chaired the Sloan School Gender Committee that contributed to the 2002 report.

MIT hopes to make further progress in both hiring more female faculty and in improving the quality of life for female faculty members.

New policies support women

In response to the studies and in order to attract more female faculty members, MIT has initiated many policy changes. According to a statement in the 2002 report by Provost Robert A. Brown, faculty members who are primary care-givers may take a paid release from teaching and service for one semester, and it is also possible for tenured faculty caring for a family member to obtain a temporary half-time appointments.

Other institute-wide changes include the option for a woman bearing a child to stop the tenure clock for one year and of paid leave for child-bearing graduate students paid by research stipends that do not allow for leave, Gibson said. According to the 2002 report, a Council on Faculty Diversity was also created in addition to the Committee on Women Faculty.

Faculty searches are now broader

The results of the reports have also led to changes in the way searches for new faculty members, or faculty searches, are conducted. Tenured women are now included in the search committees, said Hopkins.

In addition, faculty searches have been broadened, said Dean of the

School of Engineering Thomas J. Magnanti. Since his appointment as dean in 1999, Magnanti has personally reviewed the résumé of every woman who applies for a position. "Future teams will continue to review the resumes as I have," Magnanti said.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering, which previously had few female faculty, has made additional changes to its faculty search procedures, said Professor and Department Head Rohan Abeyaratne.

In the last departmental faculty search, the Department of Mechanical Engineering added a committee to oversee the hiring committees for each field to ensure that a qualified applicant who did not precisely fit into any field's search would not be overlooked. The Mechanical Engineering Department hired nine faculty in the search, six of whom were female. Abeyaratne said that he feels that the department was "truly selecting the best" of the candidates who applied for the positions.

The Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science also greatly improved its record for hiring female faculty after the 1999 report. Between 1990 and 1998, the department hired 28 men in a row, even though 16 percent of PhD graduates from the department were female, said Professor Lorna J. Gibson, who chaired the Committee on Women Faculty in the School of Engineering. According to the 2002 report, this was due in part to a rejection of offers from four female applicants. In contrast, the department has since roughly doubled the number of female faculty members, said Gibson.

Not all faculty searches have been so successful in recruiting female faculty, however. The Picower Center for Learning and Memory, slated for a 2005 opening, has only one woman faculty member out of eleven.

Professor Susumu Tonegawa, Director of the Picower Center, said that he does not know why this is the case. "We hire the best candidate whenever we open a search," he said. "Despite our utmost efforts, we have not been able to find female faculty more than what we have."

Tonegawa said the two current faculty searches are underway and could possibly result in the hiring of more women. "We would very much like to find qualified women faculty," he said.

Increases in females noticeable

The increase in female faculty changes the environment, said Hopkins, adding that there is now a "critical mass" of women faculty.

In addition, more female faculty now hold administrative positions. At the time of the 1999 study, no women held high-level administrative positions in the School of Science. Currently, the Director of the Whitehead Center, the Associate Head of Department of Biology, and the Associate Director for the Center for Cancer Research are all high-ranking women faculty, said Hopkins.

Women faculty members also head the Laboratory for Nuclear Science and Center for Space Research.

Magnanti also remarked that having more women in administrative roles makes a difference in environment.

Studies address inequities

In the summer of 1994, Hopkins and fifteen of the sixteen other tenured female faculty in the School of Science wrote a letter to Dean of the School of Science Robert J. Birgeneau, now President of the University of Toronto, to request that a committee be formed to study inequities between male and female faculty in the School of Science.

This led to the creation of the Committee on Women Faculty by

Birgeneau in 1995.

As stated in the 1999 report released by this committee, the women had felt that "gender had probably caused their professional lives to differ significantly from those of their male colleagues."

The 1999 report was requested for publication in a faculty newsletter by Bailyn, then Chair of the Faculty, and endorsed by President Charles M. Vest. It confirmed these concerns of the women with regard to inequalities between male and female faculty in the distribution of resources, salaries, and teaching assignments, as well as subtler forms of gender discrimination.

This report led to further work across the Institute with the release of a report by the Committee on Women Faculty in March 2002, which included separate reports from the four other schools as well as the 1999 report from the School of Science.

Women faculty marginalized

Many women faculty, particularly at the senior level, were found to feel marginalized and excluded in their departments, often left out of grants and other collaborations and excluded from committees, said Gibson.

Without experience on committees, Gibson added, women cannot legitimately be chosen for such positions as department head.

This question of subtle discrimination in choosing collaborators is one of the issues plaguing women faculty, according to Hopkins. "They don't choose women," she said referring to men who submit collaborative grant applications or form companies with other faculty members.

"We can't legislate who your friends are," Hopkins said, emphasizing that this problem is not easily solved.

Bailyn said that in the Sloan School of Management, junior faculty women sometimes face difficulties in being seen as legitimate in the classroom, and are challenged more than their male counterparts.

Another instance of marginalization was that many women faculty in the School of Engineering were found to teach more undergraduate and fewer upper-level graduate courses than their male counterparts, making recruiting graduating students harder, said Gibson.

In addition, she said, women were found to teach a greater number of

classes, requiring a much larger time commitment to teaching that could distract from research.

"The same way money and interest compounds, the marginalization also compounds," Gibson said. "You can sort of shrug it off if it happens once," she said, but as incidents continue to occur the feeling of marginalization becomes more noticeable.

"You say, 'I'll work a little harder.' Finally, after 20 years, you're just tired," said Hopkins.

Studies attract notice nationwide

The report released in 1999 vaulted MIT into the national spotlight.

"I think that the huge success was when President Vest acknowledged this problem. He put this problem on the map," said Hopkins.

Hopkins remarked that she has received many comments from other women faculty. "Women all over the country read it and said, 'Oh my God. That's my life,'" Hopkins said.

"It was unusual for a university to admit that there had been problems," said Bailyn, noting that at the time the report was released, the topic of gender discrimination in universities was not spoken of as it is today.

The key to the further improvement of the status of women faculty at MIT is sustainability, said Gibson, commenting that MIT needs to institutionalize the changes through policies rather than individuals.

Magnanti also acknowledged the need to "continue to work at it," adding that the School of Engineering is creating a diversity website to report accomplishments and "share the fact that MIT is a welcoming community."

Magnanti said that the School of Engineering would like to hire more female faculty than the current PhD graduate number of twelve to fourteen percent females.

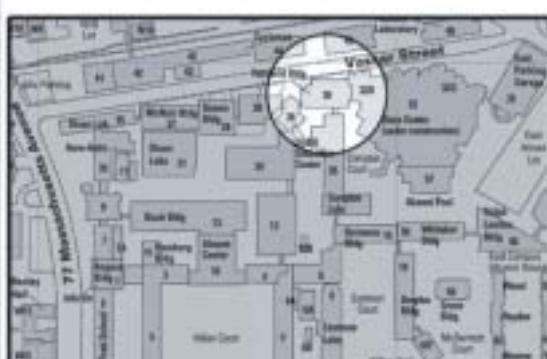
The School of Engineering is also currently trying to attract more minority graduate students, Magnanti said.

Hopkins believes that the concerns are double for minorities and quadruple for minority women compared to those documented in the 1999 report.

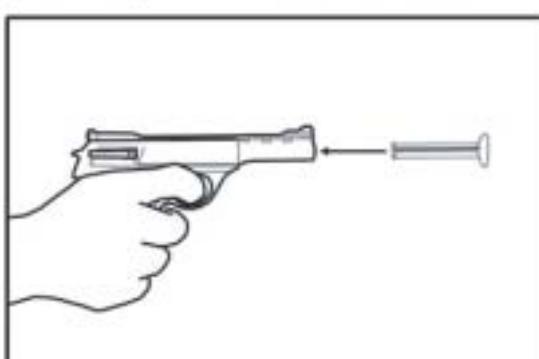
"It's not additive; it's multiplicative," she said of the difficulties faced by minorities. Hopkins recommends that MIT create a committee to study the status of minority faculty at MIT.

HOW TO PLAY "PATROL"

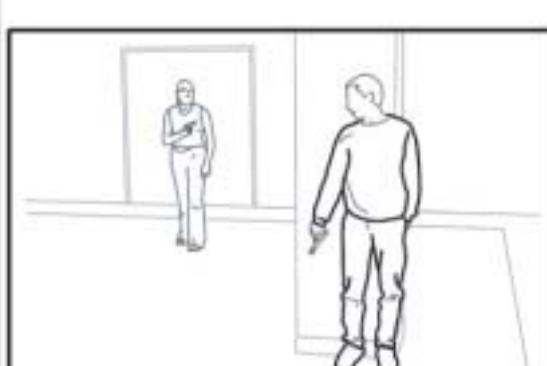
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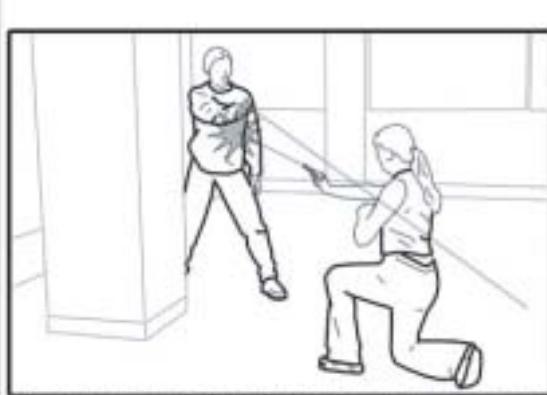
Step 2: Join a team. Take seven (7) darts and insert the first into the dart gun. You are now ready to play.



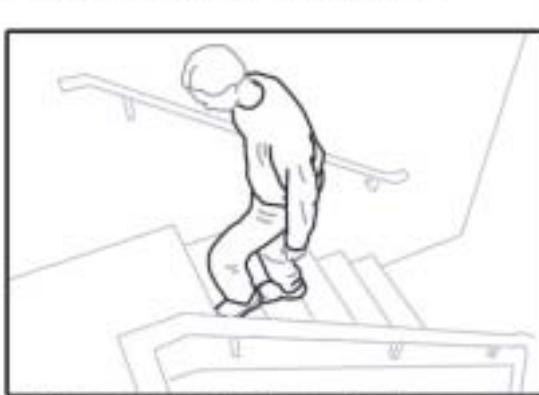
Step 3: Find cover and wait for your prey.



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Prefrosh Experience Campus, Dorm Life, Classes, and Events

CPW, from Page 1

Sophia C. Kamran. Compared to other colleges, however, MIT "is more confusing; I couldn't tell when we actually arrived on campus," she said, referring to the lack of a distinct boundary between Cambridge and campus. "It's also not as green as other campuses."

"The first thing I noticed was the sponge," said prospective student Adam R. Lerner, referring to Simons Hall. "I said to my dad, 'Hmm... architects on acid.'"

"I think it looks like it was built by a bunch of engineers," said prospective student Joyce M. Gallagher.

Prefrosh pick from many events

The schedule of events on the CPW Web site includes 196 registered events, along with 125 scheduled classes, for prefrosh to attend.

The greatly varied list of events includes residence tours, liquid nitrogen ice cream parties, fire juggling, and barbeques.

"It's an extremely full schedule," Sienzant said.

Many living groups use CPW as an opportunity to spread knowledge of their group and to begin early recruitment. "Obviously everyone is trying to recruit for their house," Guerra said. The efforts, however, all go towards a common purpose, "trying to get [the prospective students] to come to MIT," he said.

Professor Made Mark in Topology

Whitehead is Remembered as a Pioneer in Algebraic Topology

Whitehead, from Page 1

Now, Miller mentions, topology is a common tool used by mathematicians. "His thesis was a part of that," he said.

In his later research, Whitehead was involved in designing new algorithms that could carry out the same function of collapsing the number of dimensions.

Of the 196 events, 53 of them are official events held at fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. Several others are co-sponsored by various living groups, such as dormitories.

Deans welcome prefrosh

At the end of the first day of CPW, Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict, Dean of Admissions Marilee Jones, and Dean of Undergraduate Education Robert P. Redwine welcomed prefrosh to MIT.

Jones talked about keeping up grades at the end of senior year, Lerner said. She "was like, 'you are all overachievers and we want you to be overachievers, so don't slack off,'" Lerner said. "She's coming on too strongly; I found her very severe, and it turned me off." There are other important things besides academics, he said.

The speeches were pretty good, Gallagher said. Jones "put humor into it, she was down to earth, and she had some good points about not slacking off," she said.

Hosts located all over campus

Residence halls are hosting 597 prefrosh, with fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups housing the remainder.

No FSILG has more than 15 prefrosh, Guerra said. "The general number was about eight, and that depended on how many they want-

ed," he said. "Practically everyone has somewhere between five and eight."

In addition to the 297 prefrosh housed in FSILGs, 165 are hosted on campus by students with FSILG affiliations.

This number is pretty consistent with previous years, Guerra said. "We try to give them as great a profile of as many residences as possible, as they're an important component of the MIT experience," he said.

Hosts chosen through survey

Prefrosh are matched up to hosts based on how they answered survey questions.

"We asked a couple of questions this year of all prefrosh and all hosts," Guerra said. Specifically, "Is there anything we need to know in terms of matching you up? What do you do when you hang out with your friends?" he said. "That gives us a clue as to their interests."

Similarities in names and religion are coincidental, unless they specified a preference on the surveys, he said.

In previous years, a question about where the prospective student wanted to be hosted, on or off campus, was included, Guerra said. This question has since been removed because admissions was unable to accommodate all the requests to be on campus, he said.

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Undergraduate Association Goals Checklist

New Goals

Class Council choice for freshmen taking sophomore standing (froshmores)

According to the UA bylaws, the members of a particular class consist of everyone seen in the eyes of the registrar as a class member. Since froshmores are considered members of the class of 2006 by the registrar during all spring terms and members of the class of 2007 during all fall terms, they must petition the UA Senate to remain permanent members of either class. This has recently become an issue as many more freshmen are declaring sophomore standing than in the past due to the elimination of Pass/No Record second semester.

Analysis of mandatory dining fee — Working with the Interfraternity Council on a study about the mandatory dining fee and its effects (both positive and negative) on the Greek Community.

Assist in planning of Orientation 2004 schedule — Working with the Division of Student Life, and the Office of Undergraduate Education to plan events for Orientation 2004 including weekend events and the Tuesday Night party.

Investigate the new housing system — Investigate the effects of the new housing system on dormitories, fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups. Gather student responses and opinions of the results and effects of the new housing system.

Improving communication with administration concerning Orientation — Work with the administration to create a list of all the stakeholders and all those who will have an active role in the planning of Orientation.

Student-group financial resources Web site — Develop the UA Treasurer's website to serve as the center of financial resources for undergraduate student groups recognized by the Association of Student Activities.

Restructure ARCADE/LEF funding boards — Redefine the structure of the Assisting Recurring Cultural And Diversity Events (ARCADE) and Large Event Funding (LEF) boards to clarify the purpose of the funds, to provide better support to student groups who apply for funding, and to ensure a better system for review of proposals.

Student input in tenure decisions — Ensure role of teaching ability in tenure decisions, through course evaluations.

MIT presidential search — Guarantee student input in MIT presidential search through advisory group.

Monthly midnight breakfasts — We plan on holding midnight breakfasts in the student center on the first Wednesday of every month for the entire semester. If you are tooling late into the night on Wednesdays, come by and grab something to eat.

Student representative accountability — Implementing ideas holding student representatives on institute and ad-hoc committees accountable to the student body. These ideas include a list of guidelines for student representatives on their rights and responsibilities in terms of the committee they serve on, as well as the creation of a database of student representatives and their committees, to assist the Nominations Committee in making sure student representatives are attending meetings and submitting updates.

Updated Goals

Boston intercollegiate government spring showcase — Organize a leadership dinner for Student Government President and Vice President's and Deans from Boston-area schools. City Councillors, the Mayors of Boston and Cambridge, and local-area Congressmen will also be invited to participate in this forum to discuss emerging student issues and the challenges for the year ahead.

Improve relationship with other student governments — Strengthen the ties between UA, IFC, Panhel, Dormitory Council, Living Group Council, GSC, and ASA.

Cultural groups coalition — Generate an incentive for ASA recognized cultural groups to interact with one another on a regular basis.

"DormStorm" — Host dinner discussions with UA members and dormitory residents in Pritchett, McCormick, Baker, Next, and Simmons dining facilities.

Kitchen space for non-dormitory students and student groups — Acquire and renovate kitchen space for use by students on a walk-in basis, and for student groups by reservation.

Operation bike racks — Increase the number of bike racks around campus "hot spots."

Internal party registration system for dormitories — Research and implement a system for registering room parties and parties within dorms.

DomeView — DomeView is a distributed media display and communications system tailored to the MIT community to better facilitate notification between groups and individuals about campus events, announcements, and opportunities. It will consist of electronic displays distributed throughout campus and living groups, which will present visual media, provided by student groups through an intuitive Web interface, and will allow passersby to easily capture events and notices to their PDAs via Bluetooth and Infrared modules attached to the displays. A parallel Web portal will provide an additional medium to view the information shown on the displays, including integration with popular personal information management software.

UA Web site revamp — A redesign of the navigation and information structure of the main site, with the addition of public message boards for students to voice their concerns. Rather than having a single webmaster responsible for updating all the content on the UA site, UA representatives can quickly and easily update their portion of the UA site with current information through form-based update pages. These updates will include announcements, projects, as well as documents.

Progress	Target Completion Date	Contact
I worked with Dean Julie Norman to develop a quick and easy process by which froshmores decided which Class Council they wished to be a constituent of for purposes such as invitation to class events and voting in the UA Election. This year, froshmores filled out a Class Council Choice form with the Academic Resource Center (ARC) when they declared sophomore standing. I compiled these forms, passed the data along to the election commission and ring committee, and sponsored a bylaw amendment so that the UA Senate need not spend time approving froshmore petitions in future years.	Completed and Continuing	Seth Dorfman - Simmons Senator (http://simmons.mit.edu/ua/)
Gathering data.	End of term	Haiming Sun – IFC Senator (ming@MIT.EDU)
Continuing	Summer 2004	UA Committee on Housing and Orientation Chairs – (ua-cho-chairs@mit.edu)
At this point the evaluation of the housing system is out of the scope of this committee. Currently seeking other methods of gathering student input about the new system.	Late April	UA CHO Chairs – (ua-cho-chairs@mit.edu)
Currently compiling a list of all the stakeholders from the student side	Late April	UA CHO Chairs – (ua-cho-chairs@mit.edu)
Initial stages of collecting information about resources available.	Late April	John Velasco (ua-treasurer@mit.edu)
Initial meetings amongst ASA, UA, & Graduate Student Council as well as ARCADE/LEF Funding Boards and ARCADE Advisor Tom Robinson & LEF Advisor Linda Noel.	Late April	John Velasco (ua-treasurer@mit.edu)
Currently working with UA Student Committee on Education and Policy and Robert Redwine (Dean of Undergraduate Education) to review any available "best practices" documents of departmental tenure processes.	Report by end of term	Pius Uzamere II (ua-president@mit.edu)
The Student Advisory group to the Corporation Search Committee has been formed by the UA and GSC. A report will be made by this group to the corporation.	Completed and continuing	Pius Uzamere II (ua-president@mit.edu), Jacob Faber (ua-vp@mit.edu) See http://web.mit.edu/ua/www/presidentialsearch.html
Planned and Complete	First Wednesday of every month	UA Committee on Student Life (ua-csl-exec@mit.edu)
Planning and compiling information for database; starting work on guidelines.	May	Stephanie Wu (swu@mit.edu), Harel Williams (harelw@mit.edu), and Shankar Mukherji (mukherji@mit.edu)
Progress	Target Completion Date	Contact
Initial stages of planning and inviting guests.	March 30 (Hosted at the MIT Faculty Club)	Jacob Faber (ua-vp@mit.edu), John Velasco (ua-treasurer@mit.edu)
Worked side by side with both groups during IAP to engineer an optimal orientation schedule for all groups. IFC President now attending UA Senate meetings.	Continuing	UA Coordinating Committee (ua-cocomm@mit.edu)
Meeting with campus diversity group leaders to build group infrastructure	End of term	Jacob Faber (ua-vp@mit.edu), John Velasco (ua-treasurer@mit.edu)
Simmons and Baker have been "stormed". Other locations to be stormed soon.	Continuing	Pius Uzamere (ua-president@mit.edu), Jacob Faber (ua-vp@mit.edu)
The recommendations of the Walker Committee to Dean Benedict will include turning the space currently used for the servery into preparation space, for catering and possibly reservable food-safe preparation space. Also in the recommendations is expanding the Steer Roast arrangement to allow limited, supervised use of the industrial kitchen by other student groups. Changes in kitchen policy would begin next fall, after the Stata Center is complete and the minor renovations in the Walker servery and other spaces is complete.	March 1, with space actually available Fall 2004	Katherine H. Allen – Off-Campus Senator (katallen@mit.edu)
Ideal locations have been suggested. Implementation to be decided.	End of term	Jennifer Peng – Baker Senator (jpeng@mit.edu)
This is now a DormCon project.	Continually receiving updates concerning the process.	UA CHO Chairs – (ua-cho-chairs@mit.edu)
Received \$30K funding from iCampus. We are currently working on planning and design issues, and will soon begin soliciting feedback from student and living groups about implementation decisions of DomeView.	October	Harel Williams (harelw@mit.edu) & DomeView Team (domeview@mit.edu)
Coding of site is feature complete and working. The UA Web-server has been received. We have minimal internal testing to do and then the site will be made available to the public in a few weeks.	Late April	Harel Williams (harelw@mit.edu) & UA Web site Revamp Team (ua-web-revamp@mit.edu)

The Tales of Unexpected Success

By Yong-yi Zhu
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Rags to riches stories. No matter how corny they are, those same old stories of people coming to eventual success through years of hardship

always evoke that feeling of complete delight within me. Perhaps I'm just a sucker for happy endings. Perhaps I'm just sentimental. What's not to like about people finally achieving the goal they have always wanted to attain after persevering and plowing through difficult times? Whatever the case may be, we've been blessed by several in the world of sports this past year. Let me give you several accounts of these tales.

Take the Denver Nuggets. Where has that team been over the past decade? At worst, they were just a step above the Los Angeles Clippers for the second worst team in the National Basketball Association. The Nuggets were to losses what Harvard is to snobs. Heck, how many people could even name two starters on those Nugget teams? Over the past decade, the Nuggets have never been a team anybody has been afraid of. What a difference a year, and perhaps a man, can truly make. With the drafting of Carmelo Anthony, suddenly the Nuggets became a rejuvenated organization. Sure, they didn't have many superstars, but just with their modest roster, those 15 guys were able to take the team to the playoffs. Many give lots of credit to Carmelo, but in reality, guys like Andre Miller and Voshon Lenard have all stepped it up in the

process. Basketball is not a one man sport, as Tracy MacGyver proved. When those guys finally made the playoffs, they raised their arms, waved their towels, and pumped their fists in celebration. The fans did the same, cheering them for several minutes after the game.

Another such team is the Carolina Panthers. They are a newbie as far as the NFL is concerned, and last year was their big breakthrough. From a journeyman quarterback to several veteran wide receivers, the Panthers transferred their lives around from a 1-15 season two years ago, to a 7-9 record last year, to making it to the Super Bowl this past February. Now, not only does everyone know who Jake Delhomme is, but they are afraid of what he can do to a defense. Not only does the team look stronger, but John Fox's skills as a coach looked impeccable. After the win against the Eagles, the players celebrated the victory as though they were professionals, knowing what they had accomplished and what they still had to do against the New England Patriots. The coach praised the players about their work ethic while the players spoke to how they have come this far.

Finally, there are the Marlins. As a baseball team goes, they have seen more turmoil than many other. Their team had been sold immediately following winning the World Series, and it was the ultimate riches to rags story. So everyone wondered if they could turn it around the other way. But this year was unlike most other years, the team had a different air about them. Ivan Rodriguez brought leadership. Mike Lowell brought the home runs. Josh Beckett brought the pitching. It was a team full of miracles, from winning that wild card, to beating the New York Yankees. Once again, pure joy

reigned supreme as the last out of game six of the World Series was recorded.

But success doesn't always bring the pure ecstasy that these experiences have brought. Let's just take Jason E. Szuminski '01 as an example. He is the first MIT graduate to ever make the major leagues. In a way, he has made it to the ultimate goal of many baseball players around the country. However, he did come from a modest beginning. It is quite true that MIT does not do much for an athletic life. The academics here are so difficult and stressful that many times keeping up with the work is difficult enough. To put sports on top of that, without the financial help of a scholarship, can be demanding to many players. This is why MIT athletics does not and cannot compare with many schools offering easier schedules and more money. To make it from the MIT athletic program to the big leagues is a tremendous accomplishment.

Szuminski is, at the moment, the pride and joy of MIT sports. He has received numerous recognitions from papers like *The Tech*. Yet, Szuminski does not find the moment ecstatic enough to celebrate, at least not with his former family. He is an alum of this school after all, yet, he chooses to blast the school's athletic program, saying the field is bad, the coaching is bad, and the players are bad. Why all the gloom?

I love telling rags to riches stories, but this one leaves a bit of a sour aftertaste in my mouth. I guess some people put their own celebrity above all else, even the thrills of accomplishment. He used his celebrity to tell ESPN what was on his mind. Perhaps it would have been appropriate to double check his mind before he spoke. After all, we are all used to double checking our psets and tests.



Beckett Says

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DAN BERSAK—THE TECH / AP WIRE
Red Sox second baseman Mark Bellhorn slides as he attempts to catch a foul ball as first baseman Kevin Millar (15) and right fielder Gabe Kapler look on during the Red Sox opening night game against the Toronto Blue Jays at Fenway Park in Boston on Saturday, April 10, 2004. The Red Sox won the game 4-1.



DAN BERSAK—THE TECH / AP WIRE
Red Sox designated hitter David Ortiz puts bat to ball during a game against the Toronto Blue Jays at Fenway Park in Boston on Sunday, April 11, 2004. The Red Sox won the game 6-4 in 12 innings.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Friday, April 16

3:30 p.m., Varsity Baseball, Wheaton College, Briggs Field

Saturday, April 17

Noon, Varsity Baseball, WPI (doubleheader), Briggs Field

1 p.m., Varsity Women's Lacrosse, Mount Holyoke College, Jack Barry Field

Wednesday, April 21

5 p.m., Varsity Softball, Newbury College, Briggs Field

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-PETER TRAVERS

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SPORTS

PETER R. RUSSO—THE TECH



PETER R. RUSSO—THE TECH



(above) The start gun fires at the beginning of the men's 400m race. The men's and women's track teams competed at Steinbrenner Stadium on Saturday.

(left) Eric A. Khatchadourian '06 leads the first lap of the men's 1500m race. Khatchadourian placed seventh in 4:10.48.

(below) Marcus R. Carson '07 barrels down the lane during the men's 110m hurdles. Carson placed sixth with a time of 16.92s.

Men's and Women's Track Meet

(right) Julia C. Espel '05 splashes through a water hazard en route to placing second in the women's 3000m steeple chase.

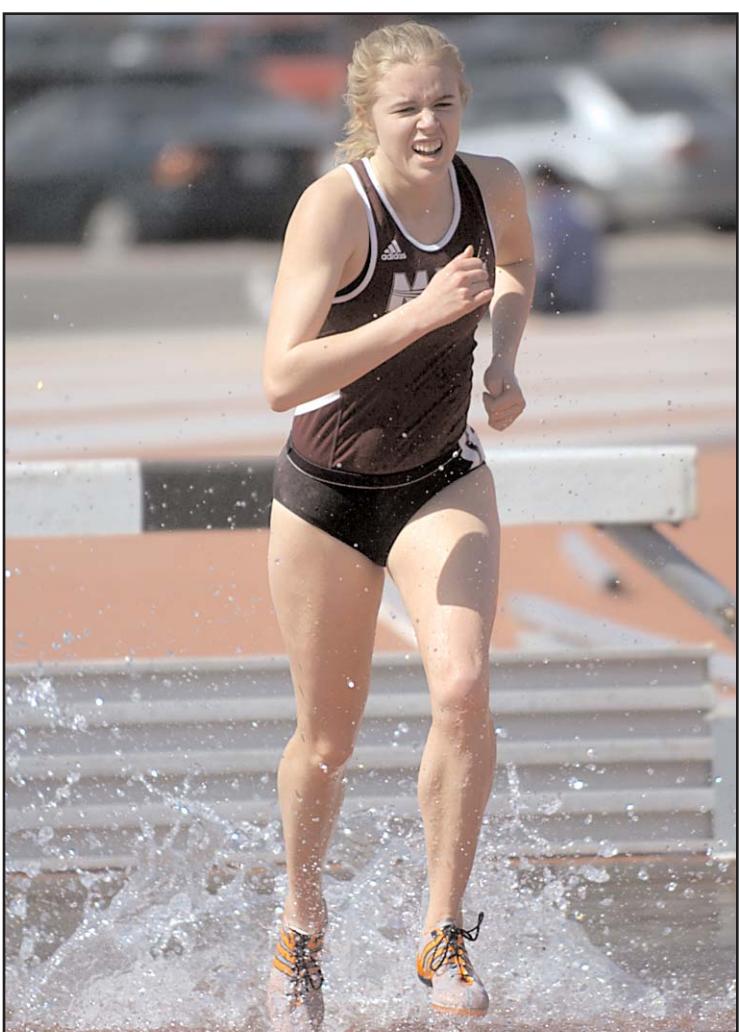
(bottom right) Nalini Gupta '05 flies through the air during the women's long jump. Gupta won the event, and set a new MIT record with a jump of 17'8".

(bottom left) Christine Fanchiang '07 scrapes the bar, but successfully makes it over during the women's pole vault. Fanchiang placed second in the event with a best jump of 9'6".

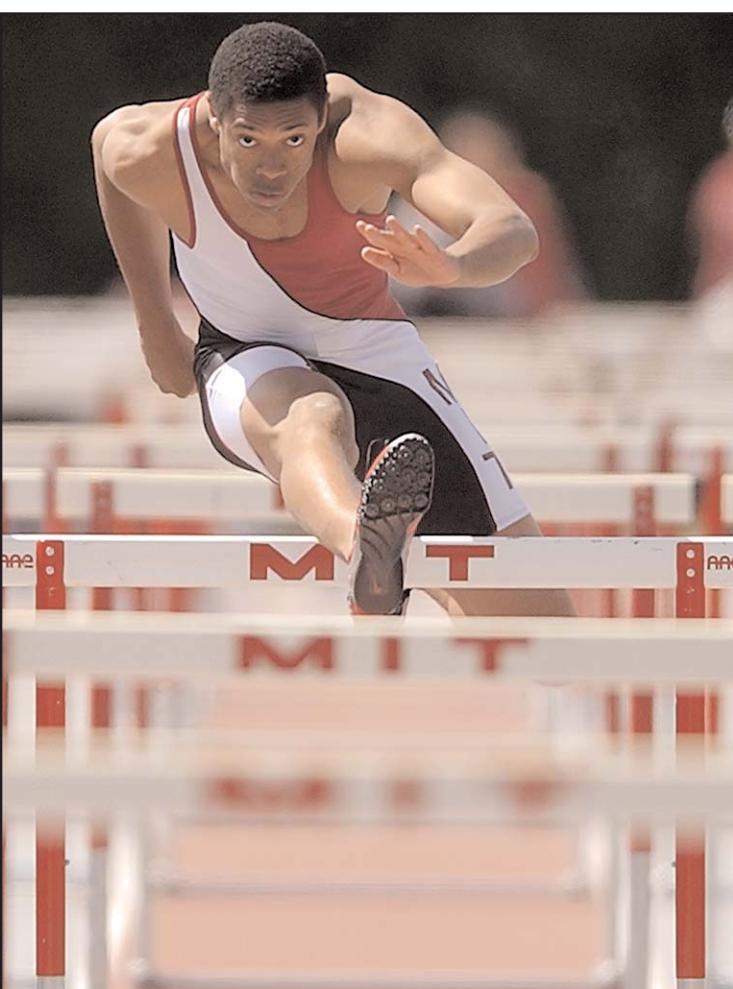
The men's team placed fourth with a team score of 125. UMass Lowell won the men's meet with a score of 196. Individual winners for MIT included Zachary J. Traina '05 in both the 100m and 200m, Nathan B. Ball '05 in the the pole vault, and Uzoma A. Orji '06 in the hammer throw.

The women's team placed sixth with a score of 81. Tufts University scored 200 to win the women's meet. The lone MIT individual winner was Nalini Gupta '05 in the long jump.

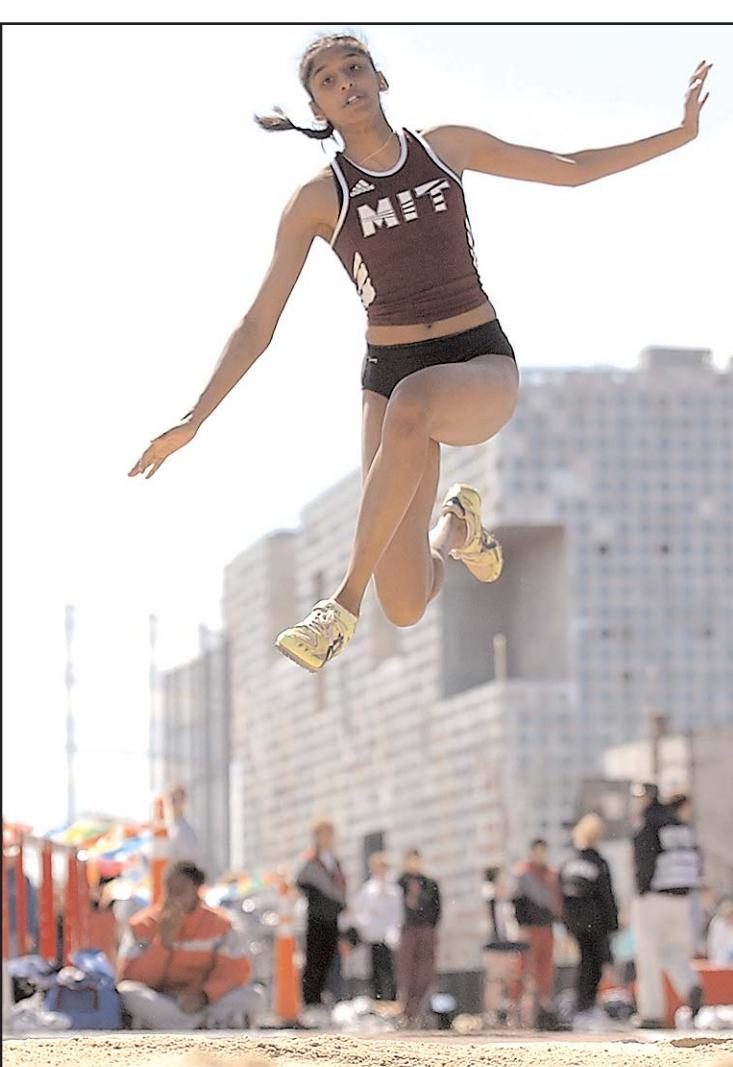
STANLEY HU—THE TECH



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